

TALES FOR CHILDREN
FROM MANY LANDS

EDITED BY F. C. TILNEY

VOLUMES IN THIS SERIES

KING ARTHUR AND HIS ROUND TABLE

GULLIVER'S TRAVELS

ENGLISH FAIRY TALES

THE WATER BABIES

PINOCCHIO

PERRAULT'S FAIRY TALES

TALES FROM THE ARABIAN NIGHTS

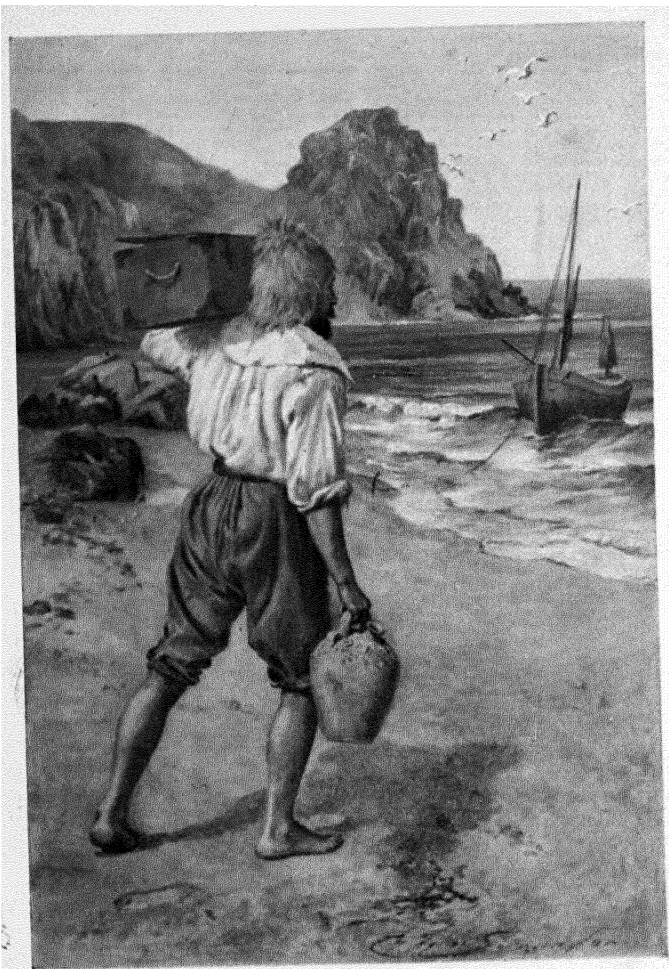
FAIRY TALES FROM SPAIN

FEATS ON THE FIORD

ROBIN HOOD AND HIS MERRY OUTLAWS

ROBINSON CRUSOE

THE SWISS FAMILY ROBINSON



"I victualled my ship for the voyage."

THE ADVENTURES OF
ROBINSON CRUSOE
ON HIS ISLAND

By
DANIEL DEFOE

Illustrated by
J. A. SYMINGTON

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INTRODUCTION

" THE Life and Strange Surprising Adventures of Robinson Crusoe, of York, Mariner : who lived eight-and-twenty years all alone in an uninhabited island on the coast of America, near the mouth of the great River Oroonoque ; having been cast on shore by shipwreck, wherein all the men perished but himself. With an account how he was at last strangely delivered by Pirates. Written by himself."

Such was the ample title under which Daniel Defoe issued the first part of his romance in 1719. That first part is the inspired work of art ; complete and sufficient. Founded upon the actual adventures of Alexander Selkirk, it commences with the restless longings of the boy for travel and adventure by sea ; it reaches its supreme climax of shipwreck and the ultimate triumph of man's resource over the merciless forces of nature ; and it closes with the happy return home of the wanderer, his marriage and comfortable settlement upon his farm in Bedfordshire. But success drove Defoe to upset this perfect rounding off of a complete episode. Within six months he had taken up the tale again and sent the wanderer off afresh, in spite of the irresistible finality of family life and middle age which the close of the first part implied. Of course Crusoe goes back to his island ; but how different is the atmosphere then ! The island is no longer a place of mystery and enchantment : it is a mere tropical settlement.

Instead of one man alone with Nature we find all the pettinesses of a community.

To the average boy the magic of *Robinson Crusoe* lies entirely within the bounds of Part I., and this is the apology, if one is needed, for the present volume, the title of which does but give in eight words the essence of the ample one quoted above.

F. C. TILNEY.

ILLUSTRATIONS

I VICTUALLED MY SHIP FOR THE VOYAGE . . .	<i>Frontispiece</i>
IF YOU COME NEAR THE BOAT I'LL SHOOT YOU . .	<i>facing page 14</i>
MY RAFT WENT VERY WELL	„ 33
I WAS KING AND LORD OF ALL THIS COUNTRY . .	„ 48
I COULD PLAINLY SEE THE WRECK OF A SHIP . .	„ 68
KILLED HIM AT THE FIRST SHOT	„ 77
I CUT THE FLAGS THAT BOUND THE POOR VICTIM .	„ 96
I SHOWED THEM THE NEW CAPTAIN HANGING AT THE YARDARM	„ 113

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THE ADVENTURES OF
ROBINSON CRUSOE
ON HIS ISLAND

I WAS born in the year 1632, in the city of York, of a good family. My father got a good estate by merchandise, and leaving off his trade, married my mother, whose relations were named Robinson, a very good family, from whom I was called Robinson Kreutznaer ; but by the usual corruption of words in England we are now called, nay, we call ourselves, and write our name, Crusoe, and so my companions always called me.

My head began to be filled very early with rambling thoughts. My father had given me a competent share of learning, and designed me for the law ; but I would be satisfied with nothing but going to sea ; and my inclination to this led me so strongly against the will, nay, the commands, of my father, and against all the entreaties and persuasions of my mother and other friends, that there seemed to be something fatal in that propension of nature tending directly to the life of misery which was to befall me.

My father, a wise and grave man, gave me serious and excellent counsel against what he foresaw was my design. He called me one morning into his chamber, where he was confined by the gout, and expostulated very warmly with me upon this subject. He pressed me earnestly, and in the most affectionate manner, not to precipitate myself into miseries which Nature and the station of life I was born in seemed to have provided against, saying that I was under no necessity of seeking my bread ; that he would do well for me, and endeavour to enter me fairly into the middle station of life which he had been recommending

to me. I was sincerely affected with this discourse, as indeed who could be otherwise? and I resolved not to think of going abroad any more, but to settle at home according to my father's desire. But alas! a few days wore it all off; and in a few weeks after I resolved to run away.

It was not till almost a year after this that I broke loose, though in the meantime I continued obstinately deaf to all proposals of settling to business. But being one day at Hull, and one of my companions being going by sea to London, in his father's ship, and prompting me to go with them, with the common allurements of seafaring men, viz., that it should cost me nothing for my passage, I consulted neither father or mother any more, nor so much as sent them word of it; but, in an ill hour, God knows, on the first of September, 1651, I went on board a ship bound for London. The ship was no sooner gotten out of the Humber, but the wind began to blow, and the waves to rise in a most frightful manner; and as I had never been at sea before, I was most inexpressibly sick in body, and terrified in my mind. I began now seriously to reflect upon how justly I was overtaken by the judgment of heaven for my wicked leaving my father's house, and abandoning my duty. All this while the storm increased. I expected every wave would have swallowed us up, and in this agony of mind I made many vows and resolutions, that if it would please God here to spare my life this one voyage; if ever I got once my foot upon dry land again, I would go directly home to my father, and never set it into a ship again while I lived.

The next day the wind was abated and the sea calmer, and I began to be a little inured to it. However, I was very grave for all that day, being also a little sea-sick still; but towards night the weather cleared up, the wind was quite over, and a charming fine evening followed; the sun went down perfectly clear, and rose so the next morning; and

having little or no wind, and a smooth sea, the sun shining upon it, the sight was, as I thought, the most delightful that ever I saw. I had slept well in the night, and was now no more sea-sick but very cheerful. And now my companion, who had enticed me away, comes to me : " Well, Bob," says he, clapping me on the shoulder, " how do you do after it ? I warrant you were frightened, wa'n't you, last night, when it blew but a capful of wind ? " " A capful, d'you call it ? " said I ; " 'twas a terrible storm." " A storm, you fool you," replies he ; " do you call that a storm ? Why, it was nothing at all ; give us but a good ship and sea-room, and we think nothing of such a squall of wind as that ; but you're but a fresh-water sailor, Bob. Come, let us make a bowl of punch, and we'll forget all that ; d'ye see what charming weather 'tis now ? " To make short this sad part of my story, we went the old way of all sailors ; the punch was made, and I was made drunk with it, and in that one night's wickedness I drowned all my repentance, all my reflections upon my past conduct, and all my resolutions for my future.

The sixth day of our being at sea we came into Yarmouth roads ; the wind having been contrary and the weather calm, we had made but little way since the storm. Here we were obliged to come to an anchor, the wind continuing contrary, viz., at south-west. After we had lain four or five days, the wind blew very hard. However, the roads being reckoned as good as a harbour, the anchorage good, and our ground-tackle very strong, our men were unconcerned, and not in the least apprehensive of danger ; but the eighth day in the morning the wind increased, and we had all hands at work to strike our topmasts, and make everything snug and close, that the ship might ride as easy as possible. By noon the sea went very high indeed, and our ship shipped several seas, and we thought once or twice our anchor had come home ; upon which our master ordered out the sheet-anchor, so that we rode with two

anchors ahead. By this time it blew a terrible storm indeed, and now I began to see terror and amazement in the faces even of the seamen themselves. The master, though vigilant to the business of preserving the ship, yet as he went in and out of his cabin by me, I could hear him softly to himself say several times, "Lord be merciful to us, we shall be all lost, we shall be all undone ;" and the like. During these first hurries I was stupid, lying still in my cabin, which was in the steerage ; I could ill reassume the first penitence ; I thought the bitterness of death had been past, and that this would be nothing too, like the first. But when the master himself came by me, as I said just now, and said we should be all lost, I was dreadfully frightened ; I got up out of my cabin, and looked out. But such a dismal sight I never saw ; the sea went mountains high, and broke upon us every three or four minutes.

Towards evening they had cut away the foremast, but the mainmast stood so loose, and shook the ship so much, they were obliged to cut her away also, and make a clear deck. But the worst was not come yet ; the storm continued with such fury, that the seamen themselves acknowledged they had never known a worse. We had a good ship, but she was deep laden, and wallowed in the sea, that the seamen every now and then cried out she would founder. It was my advantage in one respect, that I did not know what they meant by founder till I inquired. In the middle of the night, one of the men that had been down on purpose to see cried out we had sprung a leak ; another said there was four foot water in the hold. Then all hands were called to the pump. At that very word my heart died within me, and I fell backwards upon the side of my bed where I sat. However, the men roused me, and told me, that I, that was able to do nothing before, was as well able to pump as another ; at which I stirred up and went to the pump and worked very heartily.

The master continually fired guns for help ; and a light

ship, who had rid it out just ahead of us, ventured a boat out to help us ; but it was impossible for us to get on board, or for the boat to lie near the ship's side, till at last the men rowing very heartily, our men cast them a rope over the stern with a buoy to it, and then veered it out a great length, which they after great labour and hazard took hold of, and we hauled them close under our stern, and got all into their boat. We made but slow way towards the shore, nor were we able to reach it till being past the lighthouse at Winterton, the shore falls off to the westward towards Cromer, and so the land broke off a little the violence of the wind. Here we got all safe on shore, and walked afterwards on foot to Yarmouth, where we were used with great humanity, and had money given us sufficient to carry us either to London or back to Hull as we thought fit.

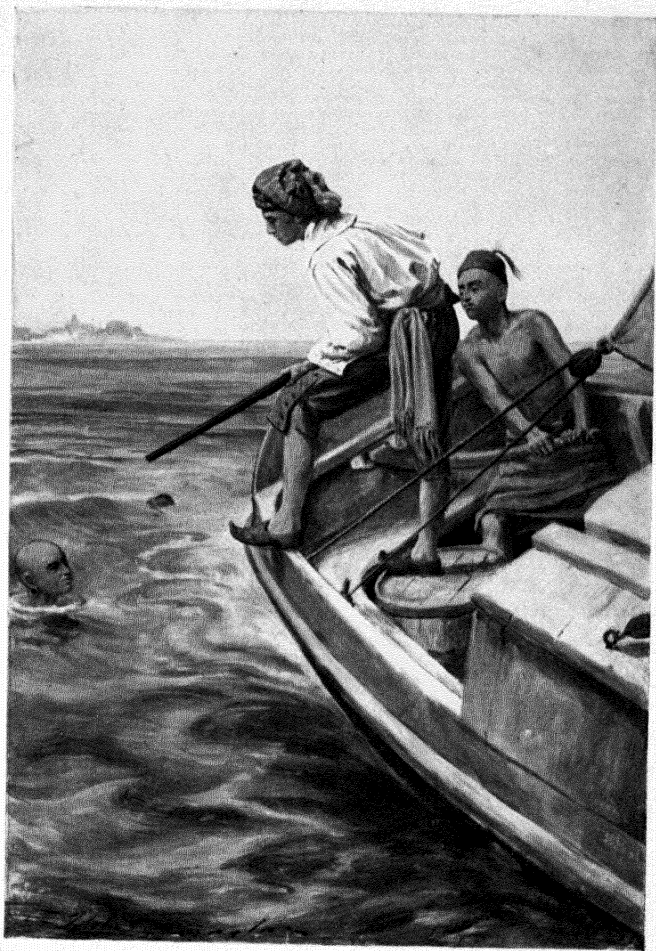
Had I now had the sense to have gone back to Hull, and have gone home, I had been happy, but my ill fate pushed me on with an obstinacy that nothing could resist ; and though I had several times loud calls from my reason and my more composed judgment to go home, yet I had no power to do it.

It was my lot first of all to fall into pretty good company in London. I first fell acquainted with the master of a ship who had been on the coast of Guinea, and was resolved to go again. He told me if I would go the voyage with him I should be at no expense ; I should be his messmate and his companion ; and if I could carry anything with me, I should have all the advantage of it that the trade would admit. I embraced the offer, went the voyage with him, and carried a small adventure with me, which, by the disinterested honesty of my friend the captain, I increased very considerably, for I carried about £40 in such toys and trifles as the captain directed me to buy. This £40 I had mustered together by the assistance of some of my relations whom I corresponded with, and who, I believe, got my

father, or at least my mother, to contribute so much as that. This voyage made me both a sailor and a merchant ; for I brought home five pounds nine ounces of gold dust for my adventure, which yielded me in London at my return almost £300, and this filled me with those aspiring thoughts which have since so completed my ruin.

I was now set up for a Guinea trader ; and my friend dying soon after his arrival, I resolved to go the same voyage again, and I embarked in the same vessel. This was the unhappiest voyage that ever man made ; for though I did not carry quite £100 of my new-gained wealth, so that I had £200 left, and which I lodged with my friend's widow, who was very just to me, yet I fell into terrible misfortunes in this voyage ; and the first was this, viz., our ship making her course towards the Canary Islands was surprised in the grey of the morning by a Turkish rover of Sallee, who gave chase to us with all the sail she could make. We crowded also as much canvas as our yards would spread, or our masts carry, but the pirate came up with us in a few hours. To cut short this melancholy part of our story, our ship being disabled, and three of our men killed and eight wounded, we were obliged to yield, and were carried all prisoners into Sallee, a port belonging to the Moors.

The captain of the rover made me his slave, being young and nimble, and fit for his business, and as he had taken me home to his house, so I was in hopes that he would take me with him when he went to sea again, believing that it would some time or other be his fate to be taken by a Spanish or Portugal man-of-war ; and that then I should be set at liberty. But when he went to sea, he left me on shore to look after his little garden, and do the common drudgery of slaves about his house ; and when he came home again from his cruise, he ordered me to lie in the cabin to look after the ship. Here I meditated nothing but my escape, and what method I might take to effect it, yet I never had the least encouraging prospect of putting it in practice



"If you come near the boat I'll shoot you."

until after about two years. My patron lying at home longer than usual without fitting out his ship, he used constantly to take the ship's pinnace, and go out into the road a-fishing ; and he always took me and a young Maresco with him to row the boat. Sometimes he would send me with a Moor, one of his kinsmen, and the youth the Maresco, to catch a dish of fish for him.

It happened that he had appointed to go out with two or three Moors of some distinction in that place, for whom he had provided extraordinarily ; and had therefore sent on board overnight a larger store of provisions than ordinary. I got all things ready as he had directed, and waited the next morning with the boat ; when by and by my patron came on board alone, and told me his guests had put off going, and ordered me with the man and boy, as usual, to go out with the boat and catch them some fish, for that his friends were to sup at his house. This moment my former notions of deliverance darted into my thoughts, and my master being gone, I prepared to furnish myself, not for a fishing business, but for a voyage.

My first contrivance was to make a pretence to speak to this Moor, to get something for our subsistence on board ; for I told him we must not presume to eat of our patron's bread. He said that was true ; so he brought a large basket of rusk or biscuit of their kind, and three jars with fresh water, into the boat. I conveyed also a great lump of beeswax into the boat, which weighed above half a hundredweight, with a parcel of twine or thread, a hatchet, a saw, and a hammer, all which were great use to us afterwards, especially the wax to make candles. The castle, which is at the entrance of the port, knew who we were, and took no notice of us ; and we were not above a mile out of the port before we hauled in our sail, and set us down to fish. After we had fished some time and caught nothing, for when I had fish on my hook I would not pull them up, that he might not see them, I said to the Moor,

"This will not do ; our master will not be thus served ; we must stand farther off." He, thinking no harm, agreed. Giving the boy the helm, I stepped forward to where the Moor was, and making as if I stooped for something behind him, I took him by surprise with my arm under his twist, and tossed him clear overboard into the sea. He rose immediately, for he swam like a cork, and called to me, begged to be taken in, told me he would go all the world over with me. He swam so strong after the boat, that he would have reached me very quickly ; upon which I stepped into the cabin, and fetching one of the fowling-pieces, I presented it at him, and told him I had done him no hurt, and if he would be quiet I would do him none. "But," said I, "you swim well enough to reach to the shore, and the sea is calm ; make the best of your way to shore, and I will do you no harm ; but if you come near the boat I'll shoot you through the head, for I am resolved to have my liberty." So he turned himself about, and swam for the shore, and I make no doubt but he reached it with ease, for he was an excellent swimmer. I could have been content to have taken this Moor with me, and have drowned the boy, but there was no venturing to trust him. When he was gone I turned to the boy, whom they called Xury, and said to him, "Xury, if you will be faithful to me I'll make you a great man ; but if you will not stroke your face to be true to me," that is, swear by Mahomet and his father's beard, "I must throw you into the sea too." The boy smiled in my face, and spoke so innocently, that I could not mistrust him, and swore to be faithful to me, and go all over the world with me.

As soon as it grew dusk in the evening, I changed my course, and steered directly south and by east, that I might keep in with the shore ; and having a fair, fresh gale of wind, and a smooth, quiet sea, I made such sail that I believe by the next day at three o'clock in the afternoon, when I first made the land, I could not be less than 150 miles south of

Sallee ; quite beyond the Emperor of Morocco's dominions, or indeed of any other king thereabouts, for we saw no people.

I would not go on shore, or come to an anchor, till I had sailed five days ; and then the wind shifting to the southward, I concluded also that if any of our vessels were in chase of me, they also would now give over ; so I came to an anchor in the mouth of a little river. I neither saw, or desired to see, any people ; the principal thing I wanted was fresh water. We came into this creek in the evening, resolving to swim on shore as soon as it was dark, and discover the country ; but as soon as it was quite dark we heard such dreadful noises of the barking, roaring, and howling of wild creatures, of we knew not what kinds, that the poor boy was ready to die with fear, and begged of me not to go on shore till day.

We were obliged to go on shore somewhere or other for water, for we had not a pint left in the boat. Xury said if I would let him go on shore with one of the jars, he would find if there was any water. I asked him why he would go ? why I should not go and he stay in the boat ? The boy answered with so much affection, that made me love him ever after. Says he, " If wild mans come, they eat me, you go way." " Well, Xury," said I, " we will both go ; and if the wild mans come, we will kill them, they shall eat neither of us." So I gave Xury a piece of rusk bread to eat and a dram out of our patron's case of bottles ; and we hauled in the boat as near the shore as we thought was proper, and so waded on shore, carrying nothing but our arms and two jars for water. The boy seeing a low place about a mile up the country, rambled to it ; and by and by I saw him come running towards me. I thought he was pursued by some savage, or frightened with some wild beast, and I ran forward towards him to help him ; but when I came nearer to him, I saw something hanging over his shoulders, which was a creature that he had shot, like a

hare, but different in colour, and longer legs. However, we were very glad of it, and it was very good meat ; but the great joy that poor Xury came with was to tell me he had found good water, and seen no wild mans.

Several times I was obliged to land for fresh water ; and once in particular, being early in the morning, we came to an anchor under a little point of land which was pretty high ; and the tide beginning to flow, we lay still to go farther in. Xury, whose eyes were more about him than it seems mine were, calls softly to me, and tells me that we had best go farther off the shore ; “ For,” says he, “ look, yonder lies a dreadful monster on the side of that hillock fast asleep.” I looked and saw a great lion that lay on the side of the shore, under the shade of a piece of the hill that hung as it were a little over him. “ Xury,” says I, “ you shall go on shore and kill him.” Xury looked frightened, and said, “ Me kill ! he eat me at one mouth.” I said no more but took the best aim I could, but he lay so with his leg raised a little above his nose, that the slugs hit his leg about the knee, and broke the bone. He started up growling at first, but finding his leg broke, fell down again, and then got up upon three legs and gave the most hideous roar that ever I heard. I fired again, and shot him into the head, and had the pleasure to see him drop, and make but little noise, but lay struggling for life. Then Xury took heart, and would have me let him go on shore. “ Well, go,” said I ; so the boy jumped into the water, and taking a little gun in one hand, swam to shore with the other hand, and coming close to the creature, put the muzzle of the piece to his ear, and shot him into the head again, which despatched him quite. This was game indeed, but no food ; and I was very sorry to loose three charges of powder and shot upon a creature that was good for nothing.

I bethought myself that perhaps the skin of him might be of some value to us. So Xury and I went to work with him. It took us both the whole day, but at last we got of

the hide of him, and spreading it on the top of our cabin, the sun effectually dried it in two days' time, and it afterwards served me to lie upon.

After this stop we made on to the southward for ten or twelve days. I began to see that the land was inhabited ; and in two or three places, as we sailed by, we saw people quite black and stark naked stand upon the shore to look at us. I kept at a distance, but talked with them by signs as well as I could, and particularly made signs for something to eat. They beckoned to me to stop my boat, and that they would fetch me some meat. Upon this two of them ran up into the country, and in less than half an hour came back, and brought with them two pieces of dried flesh and some corn. I was not for venturing on shore to them, and they were as much afraid of us ; but they took a safe way for us all, for they brought it to the shore and laid it down, and went and stood a great way off till we fetched it on board.

I made forward for about eleven days more. On a sudden, Xury cried out, " Master, master, a ship with a sail ! " I jumped out of the cabin, and immediately saw that it was a Portuguese ship, upon which I stretched out to sea as much as I could, resolving to speak with them. I found I should not be able to come in their way, but that they would be gone by before I could make any signal to them ; but after I had crowded to the utmost, and began to despair, they, it seems, saw me by the help of their perspective glasses, and shortened sail to let me come up ; and in about three hours' time I came up with them.

It was an inexpressible joy to me that I was thus delivered, and I offered all I had to the captain of the ship, as a return for my deliverance. But he generously told me he would take nothing from me, but that all I had should be delivered safe to me when I came to the Brazils. " For," says he, " I have saved your life on no other terms than I would be glad to be saved myself ; and it may, one time or other, be

my lot to be taken up in the same condition. No, no, Signior Inglese," says he, "Mr. Englishman, I will carry you thither in charity, and those things will help you to buy your subsistence there, and your passage home again."

He told me he would buy my boat of me for the ship's use, and asked me what I would have for it? I told him that I could not offer to make any price of the boat, but left it entirely to him; upon which he told me he would give me eighty pieces of eight for it at Brazil. He offered me also sixty pieces of eight more for my boy Xury, which I was loth to take; not that I was not willing to let the captain have him, but I was very loth to sell the poor boy's liberty, who had assisted me so faithfully in procuring my own. However, he offered me this medium, that he would give the boy an obligation to set him free in ten years if he turned Christian. Upon this, and Xury saying he was willing to go to him, I let the captain have him.

We had a very good voyage to the Brazils, and arrived in All Saints' Bay in about twenty-two days. The generous treatment the captain gave me I can never enough remember. He would take nothing of me for my passage, gave me twenty ducats for a leopard's skin, and forty for the lion's skin, and caused everything I had in the ship to be punctually delivered me; and what I was willing to sell he bought. I made about 220 pieces of eight of all my cargo, and with this stock I went on shore in the Brazils. I had not been long here, but being recommended to the house of a good honest man like himself, who had an *ingeino* as they call it, that is, a plantation and a sugar-house, I lived with him some time, and acquainted myself by that means with the manner of their planting and making of sugar; and seeing how well the planters lived, and how they grew rich suddenly, I resolved I would turn planter among them, resolving in the meantime to find out some way to get my money, which I had left in London,

remitted to me. To this purpose, I purchased as much land that was uncured as my money would reach.

I had a neighbour in much such circumstances as I was. My stock was but low, as well as his ; and we rather planted for food than anything else for about two years. However, we began to increase, and our land began to come into order ; so that the third year we planted some tobacco, and made each of us a large piece of ground ready for planting canes in the year to come. But we both wanted help ; and now I found, more than before, I had done wrong in parting with my boy Xury.

Before my kind friend, the captain of the ship that took me up at sea, went back he gave me this friendly advice : " Signior Inglese," says he, " if you will give me letters, with orders to the person who has your money in London to send your effects to Lisbon, I will bring you the produce of them at my return. So I accordingly prepared letters to the gentlewoman with whom I had left my money, and a procuration to the Portuguese captain as he desired. I wrote the English captain's widow a full account of all my adventures ; and when this honest captain came to Lisbon, he found means to send over not the order only, but a full account of my story to a merchant at London, who represented it effectually to her ; whereupon, she not only delivered the money, but out of her own pocket sent the Portugal captain a very handsome present for his humanity and charity to me. The merchant in London vesting this hundred pounds in English goods, sent them directly to him at Lisbon, and he brought them all safe to me to the Brazils. My goods being all English manufactures, such as cloth, stuffs, baize, and things particularly valuable and desirable in the country, I found means to sell them to a very great advantage ; so that I may say I had more than four times the value of my first cargo, and was now infinitely beyond my poor neighbour, I mean in the advancement of my plantation ; for the first thing I did, I bought

me a negro slave, and an European servant also ; I mean another besides that which the captain brought me from Lisbon. And now, increasing in business and in wealth, my head began to be full of projects and undertakings.

You may suppose, that having now lived almost four years in the Brazils, I had not only learned the language, but had contracted acquaintance and friendship among my fellow-planters, as well as among the merchants at St. Salvador, and I had frequently given them an account of my two yovages to the coast of Guinea, the manner of trading with the negroes there, and how easy it was to purchase upon the coast for trifles—such as beads, toys, knives, scissors, hatchets, bits of glass, and the like—not only gold-dust, Guinea grains, elephants' teeth, etc., but negroes, for the service of the Brazils, in great numbers. They listened always very attentively, especially to that part which related to the buying negroes. It happened three of them came to me and told me they had been musing very much upon what I had discoursed with them of, and they came to make a secret proposal to me. They told me that they had a mind to fit out a ship to go to Guinea ; that they had all plantations as well as I, and were straitened for nothing so much as servants ; that as it was a trade that could not be carried on because they could not publicly sell the negroes when they came home, so they desired to make but one voyage, to bring the negroes on shore privately, and divide them among their own plantations ; and, in a word, the question was, whether I would go their supercargo in the ship, to manage the trading part upon the coast of Guinea ; and they offered me that I should have my equal share of the negroes without providing any part of the stock.

This was a fair proposal, it must be confessed. I could no more resist the offer than I could restrain my first rambling designs, when my father's good counsel was lost upon me.

In a word, I told them I would go, if they would undertake to look after my plantation in my absence, and would dispose of it to such as I should direct if I miscarried. This they entered into covenants to do.

The same day I went on board we set sail, and passed the line in about twelve days' time, and were in seven degrees twenty-two minutes northern latitude when a violent tornado, or hurricane, took us quite out of our knowledge. It blew in such a terrible manner that for twelve days together we could do nothing but drive wherever fate and the fury of the winds directed.

In this distress, and looking over the charts of the sea-coast of America, we concluded there was no inhabited country for us to have recourse to till we came within the circle of the Carribbee Islands.

We therefore changed our course, and steered away N.W. by W. in order to reach some of our English islands, where I hoped for relief; but our voyage was otherwise determined; for a second storm came upon us, which carried us away with the same impetuosity westward, and drove us so out of the very way of all human commerce, that had all our lives been saved, as to the sea, we were rather in danger of being devoured by savages than ever returning to our own country.

The wind still blowing very hard, one of our men early in the morning cried out, "Land!" and we had no sooner ran out of the cabin to look out, in hopes of seeing whereabouts in the world we were, but the ship struck upon a sand, and in a moment, her motion being so stopped, the sea broke over her in such a manner that we expected we should all have perished immediately; and we were immediately driven into our close quarters, to shelter us from the very foam and spray of the sea. We knew nothing where we were, or upon what land it was we were driven; and as the rage of the wind was still great, we could not so much as hope to have the ship hold many minutes without



THEY GOT HER SLUNG OVER THE SHIP'S SIDE

breaking in pieces, unless the winds, by a kind of miracle, should turn immediately about. Contrary to our expectation, the ship did not break yet, and though we thought that the wind abated a little, yet the ship, having struck upon the sand, and sticking too fast for us to expect her getting off, we were in a dreadful condition indeed, and had nothing to do but to think of saving our lives as well as we could. We had a boat at our stern just before the storm, but she was first staved by dashing against the ship's rudder, and in the next place, she broke away, and either sunk or was driven off to sea, so there was no hope from her. We had another boat on board, which the mate lays hold of and, with the help of the rest of the men, got slung over the ship's side. Getting all into her we committed ourselves, being eleven in number, to God's mercy and the wild sea. And now our case was very dismal indeed, for we all saw plainly that the boat could not live. The wind driving us

towards the shore, we hastened our destruction with our own hands, pulling as well as we could towards land. What the shore was, whether rock or sand, whether steep or shoal, we knew not ; the only hope that could rationally give us the least shadow of expectation was, if we might happen into some bay or gulf, or the mouth of some river, where by great chance we might have run our boat in, or got under the lee of the land, and perhaps made smooth water. After we had driven about a league and a half, a raging wave, mountain-like, came rolling astern of us, and took us with such a fury that it upset the boat at once ; and separating us, as well from the boat as from one another, gave us not time hardly to say, " O God ! " for we were all swallowed up in a moment.

Though I swam very well, yet I could not deliver myself from the waves so as to draw breath, till that wave having carried me a vast way on towards the shore, and having spent itself, went back, and left me upon the land almost dry, but half dead with the water I took in. I had so much presence of mind, as well as breath left, that seeing myself nearer the mainland than I expected, I got upon my feet and endeavoured to make on towards the land as fast as I could, before another wave should return and take me up again. But I soon found it was impossible to avoid it ; for I saw the sea come after me as high as a great hill, and as furious as an enemy, which I had no means or strength to contend with. My business was to hold my breath, and raise myself upon the water, if I could ; and so, by swimming, to preserve my breathing, and pilot myself towards the shore, if possible ; my greatest concern now being, that the sea, as it would carry me a great way towards the shore when it came on, might not carry me back again with it when it gave back towards the sea.

The wave that came upon me again, buried me at once 20 or 30 feet deep in its own body, and I could feel myself carried with a mighty force and swiftness towards the shore

a very great way ; but I held my breath, and assisted myself to swim still forward with all my might. I was ready to burst with holding my breath, when, as I felt myself rising up, so, to my immediate relief, I found my head and hands shoot out above the surface of the water ; and though it was not two seconds of time that I could keep myself so, yet it relieved me greatly, gave me breath and new courage. I was covered again with water a good while, but not so long but I held it out ; and finding the water had spent itself, and began to return, I struck forward against the return of the waves, and felt ground again with my feet. I stood still a few moments to recover breath, and till the water went from me, and then took to my heels and ran with what strength I had farther towards the shore. But neither would this deliver me from the fury of the sea, which came pouring in after me again, and twice more I was lifted up by the waves and carried forwards as before, the shore being very flat. The last time of these two had well near been fatal to me ; for the sea, having hurried me along as before, dashed me against a piece of a rock, and that with such force as it left me senseless. The blow taking my side and breast beat the breath as it were quite out of my body ; and had it returned again immediately, I must have been strangled in the water. But I recovered a little before the return of the waves, and seeing I should be covered again with the water, I resolved to hold fast by a piece of the rock, and so to hold my breath, if possible, till the wave went back. Now as the waves were not so high as at first, being near land, I held my hold till the wave abated, and then fetched another run, which brought me so near the shore that the next wave, though it went over me, yet did not so swallow me up as to carry me away, and the next run I took I got to the mainland, where, to my great comfort, I clambered up the cliffs and sat me down free from danger.

I walked about on the shore, lifting up my hands ; my

whole being wrapt up in the contemplation of my deliverance ; reflecting upon all my comrades that were drowned, that there should not be one soul saved but myself ; for I never saw them afterwards, or any sign of them, except three of their hats, one cap, and two shoes that were not fellows.

After I had solaced my mind with the comfortable part of my condition, I began to look round me to see what kind of place I was in, and what was next to be done, and I soon found my comforts abate, and that, in a word, I had a dreadful deliverance ; for I was wet, had no clothes to shift me, nor anything either to eat or drink to comfort me, neither did I see any prospect before me but that of perishing with hunger, or being devoured by wild beasts. I had nothing about me but a knife, a tobacco-pipe, and a little tobacco in a box. This was all my provision ; and this threw me into terrible agonies of mind, that for a while I ran about like a madman. Night coming upon me, I began to consider what would be my lot if there were any ravenous beasts in that country, seeing at night they always come abroad for their prey. All the remedy that offered to my thoughts at that time was, to get up into a thick bushy tree like a fir, but thorny, which grew near me, and where I resolved to sit all night, and consider the next day what death I should die, for as yet I saw no prospect of life. I walked about a furlong from the shore, to see if I could find any fresh water to drink, which I did, to my great joy ; and having drank, and put a little tobacco in my mouth to prevent hunger, I went to the tree, and getting up into it, endeavoured to place myself so, as that if I should sleep I might not fall ; and having cut me a short stick, like a truncheon, for my defence, I took up my lodging, and slept as comfortably as, I believe, few could have done in my condition.

When I waked it was broad day, the weather clear, and the storm abated. But that which surprised me most was,

that the ship was lifted off in the night from the sand where she lay, and was driven up almost as far as the rock which I first mentioned, where I had been so bruised by the dashing me against it. This being within about a mile from the shore where I was, and the ship seeming to stand upright still, I wished myself on board, that, at least, I might have some necessary things for my use.

When I came down from the tree I looked about me again, and the first thing I found was the boat, which lay as the wind and the sea had tossed her up upon the land, about two miles on my right hand. I walked as far as I could upon the shore to have got to her, but found a neck or inlet of water between me and the boat, which was about half a mile broad ; so I came back for the present, being more intent upon getting at the ship, where I hoped to find something for my present subsistence. A little after noon I found the sea very calm, and the tide ebbed so far out, that I could come within a quarter of a mile of the ship ; and here I found a fresh renewing of my grief, for I saw evidently, that if we had kept on board we had all got safe on shore, and I had not been so miserable as to be left entirely destitute of all comfort and company. I pulled off my clothes, for the weather was hot to extremity, and took the water. But when I came to the ship, my difficulty was still greater to know how to get on board ; for as she lay aground, and high out of the water, there was nothing within my reach to lay hold of. I swam round her twice, and the second time I spied a small piece of a rope, which I wondered I did not see at first, hang down by the fore-chains so low, as that with great difficulty I got hold of it, and by its help got up into the fore-castle. Here I found that the ship was bulged, and had a great deal of water in her hold, but that she lay so on the side of a bank of hard sand, or rather earth, that her stern lay lifted up upon the bank, and her head low almost to the water. By this means all her quarter was free, and all that was in

that part was dry. First I found that all the ship's provisions were untouched by the water ; and being very well disposed to eat, I went to the bread-room and filled my pockets with biscuit, and ate it as I went about other things. I also found some rum in the great cabin, of which I took a large dram, and which I had indeed need enough of to spirit me for what was before me. Now I wanted nothing but a boat, to furnish myself with many things which I foresaw would be very necessary to me. And this extremity roused my application. We had several spare yards, and two or three large spars of wood, and a spare top-mast or two in the ship. I flung as many of them overboard as I could manage for their weight, tying every-one with a rope, that they might not drive away. When this was done I went down the ship's side, and, pulling them to me, I tied four of them fast together at both ends in the form of a raft ; and laying two or three short pieces of plank upon them crossways, I found I could walk upon it very well, but that it was not able to bear any great weight, the pieces being too light. So, with the carpenter's saw, I cut a spare top-mast into three lengths, and added them to my raft, with a great deal of labour and pains ; but hope of furnishing myself with necessaries encouraged me to go beyond what I should have been able to do upon another occasion.

My raft was now strong enough to bear any reasonable weight. My next care was what to load it with, and how to preserve what I laid upon it from the surf of the sea ; but I was not long considering this. I first laid all the planks or boards upon it that I could get, and having considered well what I most wanted, I first got three of the seamen's chests, which I had broken open, and emptied, and lowered them down upon my raft. The first of these I filled with provisions, viz., bread, rice, three Dutch cheeses, five pieces of dried goat's flesh, and a little remainder of European corn, which had been laid by for some fowls

which we brought to sea with us. There had been some barley and wheat together, but, to my great disappointment, I found afterwards that the rats had eaten or spoiled it all. As for liquors, I found several cases of bottles belonging to our skipper, in which were some cordial waters, and, in all, about five or six gallons of rack. These I stowed by themselves, there being no need to put them into the chest, nor no room for them. While doing this, I found the tide began to flow, though very calm, and I had the mortification to see my coat, shirt, and waistcoat, which I had left on shore upon the sand, swim away; as for my breeches, which were only linen, and open-kneed, I swam on board in them and my stockings. This put me upon rummaging for clothes, of which I found enough, but took no more than I wanted for present use; for I had other things which my eye was more upon, as tools to work with on shore; and it was after long searching that I found out the carpenter's chest, which was indeed a very useful prize to me, and much more valuable than a ship-loading of gold would have been at that time. I got it down to my raft, even whole as it was, without losing time to look into it, for I knew in general what it contained.

My next care was for some ammunition and arms; there were two very good fowling-pieces in the great cabin, and two pistols; these I secured first, with some powder-horns, and a small bag of shot, and two old rusty swords. I knew there were three barrels of powder in the ship, but knew not where our gunner had stowed them; but with much search I found them, two of them dry and good, the third had taken water; those two I got to my raft with the arms. And now I thought myself pretty well freighted, and began to think how I should get to shore with them, having neither sail, oar, or rudder; and the least capful of wind would have overset all my navigation.

Having found two or three broken oars belonging to the boat, I put to sea. For a mile or thereabouts my raft went

very well, only that I found it drive a little distance from the place where I had landed before, by which I perceived that there was some indraft of the water, and consequently I hoped to find some creek or river there, which I might make use of as a port.

As I imagined, so it was ; there appeared before me a little opening of the land, and I found a strong current of the tide set into it, so I guided my raft as well as I could to keep in the middle of the stream. But here I had like to have suffered a second shipwreck, which, if I had, I think verily would have broke my heart ; for knowing nothing of the coast, my raft ran aground at one end of it upon a shoal, and not being aground at the other end, it wanted but a little that all my cargo had slipped off towards that end that was afloat, and so fallen into the water. I did my utmost by setting my back against the chests to keep them in their places, but could not thrust off the raft with all my strength, neither durst I stir from the posture I was in, but holding up the chests with all my might, stood in that manner near half-an-hour, in which time the rising of the water brought me a little more upon a level ; and a little after, the water still rising, my raft floated again, and I thrust her off with the oar I had into the channel, and then driving up higher, I at length found myself in the mouth of a little river, with land on both sides, and a strong current or tide running up. I looked on both sides for a proper place to get to shore, for I was not willing to be driven too high up the river, hoping in time to see some ship at sea, and therefore resolved to place myself as near the coast as I could.

At length I spied a little cove on the right shore of the creek, to which, with great pain and difficulty, I guided my raft, and at last got so near that, reaching ground with my oar, I could thrust her directly in ; but here I had like to have dipped all my cargo in the sea again ; for that shore sloping, there was no place to land but where one end of my

float, if it run on shore, would lie so high and the other sink lower, as before, that it would endanger my cargo again. All that I could do was to wait till the tide was at the highest, keeping the raft with my oar like an anchor to hold the side of it fast to the shore, near a flat piece of ground, which I expected the water would flow over ; and so it did. As soon as I found water enough, for my raft drew about a foot of water, I thrust her on upon that flat piece of ground, and there moored her by sticking my two broken oars into the ground ; one on one side near one end, and one on the other side near the other end ; and thus I lay till the water ebbed away, and left my raft and all my cargo safe on shore.

There was a hill, not above a mile from me, which rose up very steep and high, and which seemed to overtop some other hills, which lay as in a ridge from it, northward. I took out one of the fowling-pieces and one of the pistols, and a horn of powder ; and thus armed, I travelled for discovery up to the top of that hill, where I saw my fate to my great affliction, viz., that I was environed every way with the sea, no land to be seen, except some rocks which lay a great way off, and two small islands less than this, which lay about three leagues to the west.

At my coming back, I shot at a great bird which I saw sitting upon a tree on the side of a great wood. I believe it was the first gun that had been fired there since the creation of the world. I had no sooner fired, but from all the parts of the wood there arose an innumerable number of fowls of many sorts, making a confused screaming.

I came back to my raft, and brought my cargo on shore, which took me up the rest of that day. As well as I could, I barricaded myself round with the chests and boards and made a kind of a hut for that night's lodging ; as for food, I yet saw not which way to supply myself, except that I had seen two or three creatures like hares run out of the wood where I shot the fowl.



My raft went very well.

I resolved to make another voyage on board the vessel; if possible. And as I knew that the first storm that blew must necessarily break her all in pieces, I resolved to set all other things apart till I got everything out of the ship that I could get.

I got on board as before, and prepared a second raft, and having had experience of the first, I neither made this so unwieldy, nor loaded it so hard; but yet I brought away several things very useful to me; as, first, in the carpenter's stores I found two or three bags full of nails and spikes, a great screw-jack, a dozen or two of hatchets, and above all, that most useful thing called a grindstone. All these I secured, together with several things belonging to the gunner, particularly two or three iron crows, and two barrels of musket bullets, seven muskets, and another fowling-piece, with some small quantity of powder more; a large bag full of small-shot, and a great roll of sheet lead; but this last was so heavy, I could not hoist it up to get it over the ship's side. Besides these things, I took all the men's clothes that I could find, and a spare fore-top sail, a hammock, and some bedding.

When I came back, I found no sign of any visitor, only there sat a creature like a wild cat upon one of the chests, which, when I came towards it, ran away a little distance, and then stood still. She sat very composed and unconcerned, and looked full in my face, as if she had a mind to be acquainted with me. I presented my gun at her; but as she did not understand it, she was perfectly unconcerned at it, nor did she offer to stir away; upon which I tossed her a bit of biscuit, though, by the way, I was not very free of it, for my store was not great. However, I spared her a bit, I say, and she went to it, smelled of it, and ate it, and looked (as pleased) for more; but I thanked her, and could spare no more, so she marched off.

I went to work to make me a little tent with the sail and some poles which I cut for that purpose; and into this

tent I brought everything that I knew would spoil either with rain or sun ; and I piled all the empty chests and casks up in a circle round the tent, to fortify it from any sudden attempt, either from man or beast. When I had done this I blocked up the door of the tent with some boards within, and an empty chest set up on end without ; and spreading one of the beds upon the ground, laying my two pistols just at my head, and my gun at length by me, I went to bed for the first time, and slept very quietly all night, for I was very weary and heavy ; for the night before I had slept little, and had laboured very hard all day, as well to fetch all those things from the ship, as to get them on shore.

Every day at low water I went on board, and brought away something or other ; but, particularly, the third time I went I brought away as much of the rigging as I could, as also all the small ropes and rope-twine I could get, with a piece of spare canvas and the barrel of wet gunpowder. In a word, I brought away all the sails first and last, only that I was fain to cut them in pieces, and bring as much at a time as I could ; for they were no more useful to be sails, but as mere canvas only. After I had made five or six such voyages as these, I found a great hogshead of bread, and three large runlets of rum or spirits, and a box of sugar, and a barrel of fine flour ; this was surprising to me, because I had given over expecting any more provisions, except what was spoilt by the water. I soon emptied the hogshead of that bread, and wrapped it up parcel by parcel in pieces of the sails, which I cut out ; and now, having plundered the ship of what was portable and fit to hand out, I began with the cables ; and cutting the great cable into pieces, such as I could move, I got two cables and a hawser on shore, with all the iron-work I could get ; and having cut down the sprit-sail-yard, and the mizzen-yard, and everything I could to make a large raft, I loaded it with all those heavy goods, and came away. But my good luck began now to leave me ; for this raft was so

unwieldy, and so overladen, that after I was entered the little cove where I had landed the rest of my goods, not being able to guide it so handily as I did the other, it overset and threw me and all my cargo into the water. As for myself, it was no great harm, for I was near the shore ; but as to my cargo, it was great part of it lost, especially the iron, which I expected would have been of great use to me. However, when the tide was out, I got most of the pieces of cable ashore, and some of the iron, though with infinite labour ; for I was fain to dip for it into the water, a work which fatigued me very much.

I had been now thirteen days on shore, and had been eleven times on board the ship ; in which time I had brought away all that one pair of hands could well be supposed capable to bring, though I believe verily, had the calm weather held, I should have brought away the whole ship piece by piece. Though I had rummaged the cabin so effectually, yet I discovered a locker in which I found two or three razors, and one pair of large scissors, with some ten or a dozen of good knives and forks ; in another, I found about thirty-six pounds value in money, some European coin, some Brazil, some pieces of eight, some gold, some silver. I smiled to myself at the sight of this money. " O drug ! " said I aloud, " what art thou good for ? Thou art not worth to me, no, not the taking off of the ground ; one of those knives is worth all this heap." However, upon second thoughts, I took it away.

I soon found the place I was in was not for my settlement, particularly because it was upon a low moorish ground near the sea, and I believed would not be wholesome. I consulted several things in my situation, which I found would be proper for me. First, health and fresh water. Secondly, shelter from the heat of the sun. Thirdly, security from ravenous creatures, whether men or beasts. Fourthly, a view to the sea, that if God sent any ship in sight I might not lose any advantage for my

deliverance, of which I was not willing to banish all my expectation yet.

In search of a place proper for this, I found a little plain on the side of a rising hill, whose front towards this little plain was steep as a house-side, so that nothing could come down upon me from the top ; on the side of this rock there was a hollow place, worn a little way in, like the entrance or door of a cave ; but there was not really any cave, or way into the rock at all.

On the flat of the green, just before this hollow place, I resolved to pitch my tent. This plain was not above an hundred yards broad, and about twice as long, and lay like a green before my door, and at the end of it descended irregularly every way down into the low grounds by the seaside. It was on the NNW. side of the hill, so that I was sheltered from the heat every day, till it came to a W. and by S. sun, or thereabouts, which in those countries is near the setting.

Before I set up my tent, I drew a half circle before the hollow place, which took in about ten yards in its semi-diameter from the rock. In this half-circle I pitched two rows of strong stakes, driving them into the ground till they stood very firm like piles, the biggest end being out of the ground about five feet and a half, and sharpened on the top. The two rows did not stand above six inches from one another.

Then I took the pieces of cable which I had cut in the ship, and laid them in rows one upon another, within the circle, between these two rows of stakes, up to the top, placing other stakes in the inside leaning against them, about two feet and a half high, like a spur to a post ; and this fence was so strong, that neither man or beast could get into it, or over it. This cost me a great deal of time and labour, especially to cut the piles in the woods, bring them to the place, and drive them into the earth.

The entrance into this place I made to be not by a door,

but by a short ladder to go over the top ; which ladder, when I was in, I lifted over after me, and so I was completely fenced in, and fortified. Into this fence or fortress I carried all my riches, all my provisions, ammunition, and stores ; and I made me a large tent, which, to preserve me from the rains that in one part of the year are very violent there, I made double, viz., one smaller tent within, and one larger tent above it, and covered the uppermost with a large tarpaulin, which I had saved among the sails. And now I lay no more for a while in the bed which I had brought on shore, but in a hammock, which was indeed a very good one, and belonged to the mate of the ship. When I had done this, I began to work my way into the rock ; and bringing all the earth and stones that I dug down out through my tent, I laid them up within my fence in the nature of a terrace, so that it raised the ground within about a foot and a half ; and thus I made me a cave just behind my tent, which served me like a cellar to my house.

It happened that a storm of rain falling from a thick dark cloud, a sudden flash of lightning, and after that a great clap of thunder, surprised me with the thought which darted into my mind as swift as the lightning itself. O my powder ! My very heart sunk within me when I thought, that at one blast all my powder might be destroyed, on which, not my defence only, but the providing me food, as I thought, entirely depended. I was nothing near so anxious about my own danger ; though had the powder took fire, I had never known who had hurt me. Such impression did this make upon me, that after the storm was over I laid aside all my works, my building, and fortifying, and applied myself to make bags and boxes to separate the powder, and keep it a little and a little in a parcel, in hope that whatever might come it might not all take fire at once. As to the barrel that had been wet, I did not apprehend any danger from that, so I placed it in my new cave, which in



I HAD FREQUENTLY A FAIR MARK

my fancy I called my kitchen, and the rest I hid up and down in holes among the rocks.

In the interval I went out once, at least, every day with my gun, and presently discovered that there were goats in the island, which was a great satisfaction to me; but they were so shy, so subtle, and so swift of foot, that it was the difficultest thing in the world to come at them. I observed if they saw me in the valleys, though they were upon the rocks, they would run away as in a terrible fright; but if they were feeding in the valleys, and I was upon the rocks, they took no notice of me. So afterward I always climbed the rocks first to get above them, and then had frequently a fair mark. The first shot I made I killed a she-goat, which had a little kid by her, which grieved me heartily; but when the old one fell, the kid stood stock still by her till I came and took her up; and not only so, but when I carried the old one with me upon my shoulders, the kid followed me quite to my enclosure; upon which I laid down the dam, and took the kid in my arms, and carried it over my pale, in hopes to have bred it up tame;

but it would not eat, so I was forced to kill it, and eat it myself. These two supplied me with flesh a great while, for I sparingly ate, and saved my provisions, my bread especially.

It came into my thoughts that I should lose my reckoning of time, and should even forget the Sabbath days. To prevent this, I cut them upon a large post, in capital letters ; and making it into a great cross, I set it up on the shore where I first landed, viz., "I came on shore here on the 30th of September 1659." Upon the sides of this square post I cut every day a notch with my knife, and every seventh notch was as long again as the rest, and every first day of the month as long again as that long one ; and thus I kept my calendar.

Among the many things which I brought out of the ship, I got several which I omitted setting down before ; as in particular, pens, ink, and paper, several parcels in the captain's, mate's, gunner's, and carpenter's keeping, three or four compasses, some mathematical instruments, dials, perspectives, charts, and books of navigation, all which I huddled together, whether I might want them or no. Also I found three very good Bibles, which came to me in my cargo from England. And I must not forget that we had in the ship a dog and two cats. I carried both the cats with me ; and as for the dog, he jumped out of the ship of himself, and swam on shore to me the day after I went on shore with my first cargo, and was a trusty servant to me many years. I wanted nothing that he could fetch me, nor any company that he could make up to me ; I only wanted to have him talk to me, but that he would not do.

The want of proper tools made work go on heavily ; and it was near a whole year before I had entirely finished my little pale or surrounded habitation. The piles or stakes, which were as heavy as I could well lift, were a long time in cutting and preparing in the woods, and more by

far in bringing home ; so that I spent sometimes two days in cutting and bringing home one of those posts, and a third day in driving it into the ground ; for which purpose I got a heavy piece of wood at first, but at last bethought myself of one of the iron crows.

When I found I was pretty safe as to beasts of prey, I worked sideways to the right hand into the rock ; and then, turning to the right again, worked quite out, and made me a door to come out on the outside of my pale or fortification. This gave me not only egress and regress, as it were a backway to my tent and to my storehouse, but gave me room to stow my goods.

And now I began to apply myself to make such necessary things as I found I most wanted, as particularly a chair and a table ; for without these I was not able to enjoy the few comforts I had in the world. I could not write or eat, or do several things with so much pleasure without a table. I had never handled a tool in my life ; and yet in time, by labour, application, and contrivance, I found at last that I wanted nothing but I could have made it, especially if I had had proper tools. However, I made abundance of things even without tools, and some with no more tools than an adze and a hatchet, which perhaps were never made that way before, and that with infinite labour.

When I had wrought out some boards, I made large shelves of the breadth of a foot and a half one over another, all along one side of my cave, to lay all my tools, nails, and iron-work ; and, in a word, to separate everything at large in their places, that I might come easily at them. I knocked pieces into the wall of the rock to hang my guns and all things that would hang up ; so that had my cave been to be seen, it looked like a general magazine of all necessary things ; and I had everything so ready at my hand, that it was a great pleasure to me to see all my goods in such order, and especially to find my stock of all necessities so great.

And now it was when I began to keep a journal of every day's employment, until, having no more ink, I was forced to leave it off.

At times the rains hindered me many days, nay, sometimes weeks together.

And now in the managing my household affairs I found myself wanting in many things. For instance, I could never make a cask to be hooped ; I could neither put in the heads, or joint the staves so true to one another, as to make them hold water. In the next place, I was at a great loss for candle ; so that as soon as ever it was dark, which was generally by seven o'clock, I was obliged to go to bed. I remembered the lump of beeswax with which I made candles in my African adventure, but I had none of that now. The only remedy I had was, that when I had killed a goat I saved the tallow, and with a little dish made of clay, which I baked in the sun, to which I added a wick of some oakum, I made me a lamp ; and this gave me light, though not a clear steady light like a candle.

In the middle of all my labours it happened, that rummaging my things, I found a little bag, which, as I hinted before, had been filled with corn for the feeding of poultry, not for this voyage, but before, as I suppose, when the ship came from Lisbon. What little remainder of corn had been in the bag was all devoured by rats, and I saw nothing in the bag but husks and dust ; and being willing to have the bag for some other use, I shook the husks of corn out of it on one side of my fortification, under the rock. It was a little before the great rains, just now mentioned, that I threw this stuff away, taking no notice of anything, and not so much as remembering that I had thrown anything there ; when, about a month after, or thereabout, I saw some few stalks of something green shooting out of the ground, which I fancied might be some plant I had not seen ; but I was surprised, and perfectly astonished, when, after a little longer time, I saw about ten or twelve ears

come out, which were perfect green barley of the same kind as our European, nay, as our English barley. I carefully saved the ears of this corn, you may be sure, in their season, which was about the end of June ; and laying up every corn, I resolved to sow them all again, hoping in time to have some quantity sufficient to supply me with bread. But it was not till the fourth year that I could allow myself the least grain of this corn to eat, and even then but sparingly ; for I lost all that I sowed the first season by not observing the proper time ; for I sowed it just before the dry season, so that it never came up at all, at least not as it would have done. Besides this barley, there was, as above, twenty or thirty stalks of rice, which I preserved with the same care, and whose use was of the same kind, or to the same purpose, viz., to make me bread, or rather food ; for I found ways to cook it without baking, though I did that also after some time.

One morning I found the ship strangely removed. The fore-castle, which lay before buried in sand, was heaved up at least six feet ; and the stern, which was broken to pieces, and parted from the rest by the force of the sea, soon after I had left rummaging her, was tossed, as it were, up, and cast on one side, and the sand was thrown so high on that side next her stern, that whereas there was a great place of water before, so that I could not come within a quarter of a mile of the wreck without swimming, I could now walk quite up to her when the tide was out.

I went every day to the wreck, and got a great deal of pieces of timber, and boards, or plank, and two or three hundredweight of iron. Every day I worked on the wreck, and with hard labour I loosened some things so much with the crow, that the first blowing tide several casks floated out, and two of the seamen's chests. But the wind blowing from the shore, nothing came to land that day but pieces of timber, and a hog'shead, which had some Brazil pork in it, but the salt water and the sand had

spoiled it. I continued this work every day to the 15th of June, except the time necessary to get food, which I always appointed, during this part of my employment, to be when the tide was up, that I might be ready when it was ebbed out. And by this time I had gotten timber, and plank, and ironwork enough to have builded a good boat, if I had known how ; and also, I got at several times, and in several pieces, near one hundredweight of the sheet lead.

Going down to the seaside next day I found a large tortoise or turtle. This was the first I had seen. I found in her three-score eggs ; and her flesh was to me, at that time, the most savoury and pleasant that ever I tasted in my life, having had no flesh, but of goats and fowls, since I landed in this horrid place.

I had been now in this unhappy island above ten months. It was the 15th of July that I began to take a more particular survey of the island itself. I went up the creek first, where I brought my rafts on shore, and found, after I came about two miles up, that the tide did not flow any higher, and that it was no more than a little brook of running water, and very fresh and good ; but this being the dry season, there was hardly any water in some parts of it.

The next day, the 16th, I went up the same way again ; and after going something farther than I had gone the day before, I found the brook and the savannas began to cease, and the country became more woody than before. In this part I found different fruits, and particularly I found melons upon the ground in great abundance, and grapes upon the trees. The vines had spread over the trees, and the clusters of grapes were just now in their prime, very ripe and rich. This was a surprising discovery, and I was exceeding glad of them ; but I was warned by my experience to eat sparingly of them, remembering that when I was ashore in Barbary the eating of grapes killed several of our Englishmen, who were slaves there, by throwing them into fluxes and fevers. But I found an excellent use for these

grapes : and that was, to cure or dry them in the sun, and keep them as dried grapes or raisins are kept, which I thought would be, as indeed they were, as wholesome as agreeable to eat, when no grapes might be had.

I spent all that evening there and went not back to my habitation. In the night, I got up into a tree, where I slept well ; and the next morning proceeded upon my discovery, travelling near four miles. At the end of this march I came to an opening, where the country seemed to descend to the west ; and a little spring of fresh water ran the other way, that is, due east ; and the country appeared so fresh, so green, so flourishing, everything being in a constant verdure or flourish of spring, that it looked like a planted garden. I descended a little on the side of that delicious vale, surveying it with a secret kind of pleasure to think that this was all my own ; that I was king and lord of all this country indefeasibly, and had a right of possession.

I gathered a great heap of grapes in one place, and a lesser heap in another place, and a great parcel of limes and lemons in another place ; and, taking a few of each with me, I travelled homeward ; and resolved to come again, and bring a bag or sack, or what I could make, to carry the rest home.

However, I found that there was no laying them up on heaps, and no carrying them away in a sack, but that one way they would be destroyed, and the other way they would be crushed with their own weight, so I took another course ; for I gathered a large quantity of the grapes, and hung them up upon the out-branches of the trees, that they might cure and dry in the sun ; and as for the limes and lemons, I carried as many back as I could well stand under.

I was so enamoured of this place, that I spent much of my time there for the whole remaining part of the month of July ; and though, upon second thoughts, I resolved not to remove, yet I built me a little kind of a bower, and sur-

rounded it at a distance with a strong fence, being a double hedge as high as I could reach, well staked, and filled between with brushwood. And here I lay very secure, sometimes two or three nights together, always going over it with a ladder, as before ; so that I fancied now I had my country house and my sea-coast house ; and this work took me up to the beginning of August. About the beginning of August I had finished my bower, and began to enjoy myself. The 3rd of August, I found the grapes I had hung up were perfectly dried, and indeed were excellent good raisins of the sun ; so I began to take them down from the trees. And it was very happy that I did so, for the rains which followed would have spoiled them, and I had lost the best part of my winter food ; for I had above two hundred large bunches of them. No sooner had I taken them all down, and carried most of them home to my cave, but it began to rain ; and from hence, which was the 14th of August, it rained, more or less, every day till the middle of October, and sometimes so violently that I could not stir out of my cave for several days.

As soon as the rains were over, and the weather began to settle, which was about the month of November, I made a visit up the country to my bower, where, though I had not been some months, yet I found all things just as I left them. The circle or double hedge that I had made was not only firm and entire, but the stakes which I had cut out of some trees that grew thereabouts were all shot out, and grown with long branches, as much as a willow tree usually shoots the first year after lopping its head. I could not tell what tree to call it that these stakes were cut from. I was surprised, and yet very well pleased to see the young trees grow, and I pruned them, and led them up to grow as much alike as I could. And it is scarce credible how beautiful a figure they grew into in three years ; so that though the hedge made a circle of about twenty-five yards in diameter, yet the trees, for such I might now call them, soon covered

it, and it was a complete shade, sufficient to lodge under all the dry season. This made me resolve to cut some more stakes, and make me a hedge like this, in a semi-circle round my wall (I mean that of my first dwelling), which I did ; and placing the trees or stakes in a double row, at about eight yards' distance from my first fence, they grew presently, and were at first a fine cover to my habitation, and afterward served for a defence also.

I found great occasion of many things which I had no way to furnish myself with but by hard labour and constant application ; particularly, I tried many ways to make myself a basket ; but all the twigs I could get for the purpose proved so brittle, that they would do nothing. It came into my mind that the twigs of that tree from whence I cut my stakes that grew might possibly be as tough as the sallows, and willows, and osiers in England, and I resolved to try. Accordingly, the next day, I went to my country house, as I called it ; and cutting some of the smaller twigs, I found them to my purpose as much as I could desire ; whereupon I came the next time prepared with a hatchet to cut down a quantity, which I soon found, for there was great plenty of them. During the next season I employed myself in making, as well as I could, a great many baskets, both to carry earth, or to carry or lay up anything as I had occasion. And though I did not finish them very handsomely, yet I made them sufficiently serviceable for my purpose. I had no vessels to hold anything that was liquid, except two runlets, which were almost full of rum, and some glass bottles, some of the common size, and others which were case-bottles, square, for the holding of waters, spirits, etc. I had not so much as a pot to boil anything, except a great kettle, which I saved out of the ship, and which was too big for such use as I desired it, viz., to make broth, and stew a bit of meat by itself.

I now resolved to travel quite across to the seashore on

that side ; so taking my gun, a hatchet, and my dog, and a larger quantity of powder and shot than usual, with two biscuit-cakes and a great bunch of raisins in my pouch for my store, I began my journey. When I had passed the vale where my bower stood, as above, I came within view of the sea to the west ; and it being a very clear day, I fairly descried land, whether an island or a continent I could not tell ; but it lay very high, extending from the west to the W.S.W. at a very great distance ; by my guess, it could not be less than fifteen or twenty leagues off.

I caught, after some painstaking, a young parrot, for I knocked it down with a stick, and having recovered it, I brought it home ; but it was some years before I could make him speak. I found in the low grounds hares, as I thought them to be, and foxes ; but they differed greatly from all the other kinds I had met with, nor could I satisfy myself to eat them, though I killed several. But I had no need to be venturous, for I had no want of food, and of that which was very good too ; especially these three sorts, viz., goats, pigeons, and turtle, or tortoise ; which, added to my grapes, Leadenhall Market could not have furnished a table better than I, in proportion to the company.

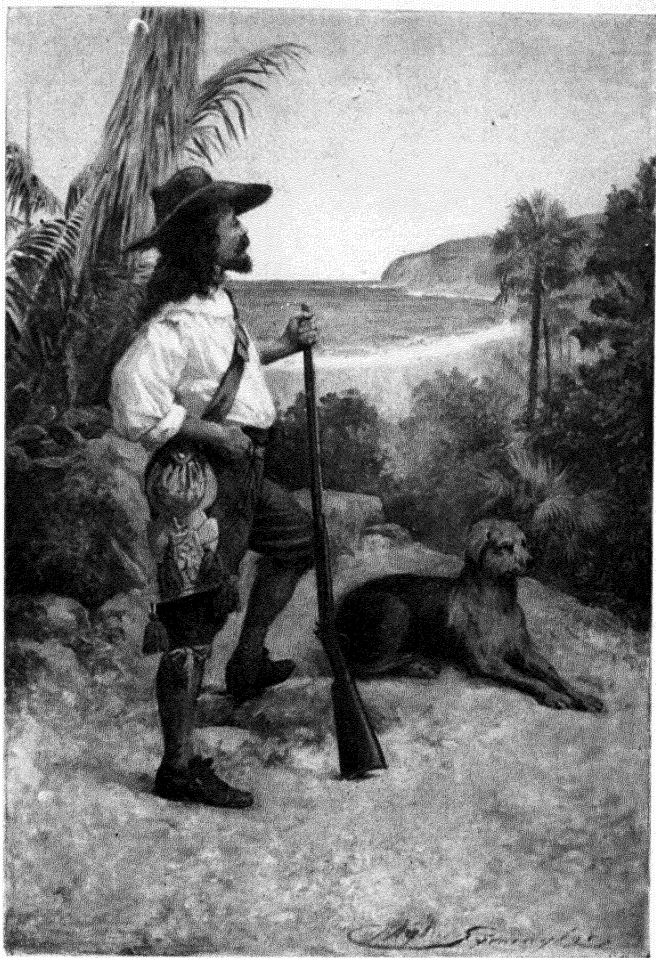
As soon as I came to the seashore, I was surprised to see that I had taken up my lot on the worst side of the island, for here indeed the shore was covered with innumerable turtles ; whereas, on the other side, I had found but three in a year and a half. Here was also an infinite number of fowls of many kinds, some of which I had seen before, and many of them very good meat, but such as I knew not the names of, except those called penguins. I could have shot as many as I pleased, but was very sparing of my powder and shot, and therefore had more mind to kill a she-goat, if I could, which I could better feed on ; and though there were many goats here, more than on my side the island, yet it was with much more difficulty that I could

come near them, the country being flat and even, and they saw me much sooner than when I was on the hill. I confess this side of the country was much pleasanter than mine. I travelled along the shore of the sea towards the east, I suppose about twelve miles, and then setting up a great pole upon the shore for a mark, I concluded I would go home again ; and that the next journey I took should be on the other side of the island, east from my dwelling, and so round till I came to my post again.

I cannot express what a satisfaction it was to me to come back into my old hutch, and lie down in my hammock-bed. This little wandering journey, without settled place of abode, had been so unpleasant to me, that my own house, as I called it to myself, was a perfect settlement to me compared to that ; and it rendered everything about me so comfortable, that I resolved I would never go a great way from it again, while it should be my lot to stay on the island.

The rainy season of the autumnal equinox was now come, and I kept the 30th of September as the anniversary of my landing on the island, having now been there two years, and no more prospect of being delivered than the first day I came there.

I was, in the months of November and December, expecting my crop of barley and rice. The ground I had manured or dug up for them was not great ; for, as I observed, my seed of each was not above the quantity of half a peck ; for I had lost one whole crop by sowing in the dry season. But now my crop promised very well, when on a sudden I found I was in danger of losing it all again by enemies of several sorts, which it was scarce possible to keep from it ; as, first, the goats and wild creatures which I called hares, who, tasting the sweetness of the blade, lay in it night and day, as soon as it came up, and eat it so close, that it could get no time to shoot up into stalk. This I saw no remedy for but by making an enclosure about it with a



"I was king and lord of all this country."

hedge, which I did with a great deal of toil, and the more, because it required speed. However, as my arable land was but small, suited to my crop, I got it totally well fenced in about three weeks' time, and shooting some of the creatures in the daytime, I set my dog to guard it in the night, tying him up to a stake at the gate, where he would stand and bark all night long ; so in a little time the enemies forsook the place, and the corn grew very strong and well, and began to ripen apace.

But as the beasts ruined me before while my corn was in the blade, so the birds were as likely to ruin me now when it was in the ear ; for going along by the place to see how it throve, I saw my little crop surrounded with fowls, of I know not how many sorts, who stood, as it were, watching till I should be gone. I immediately let fly among them, for I always had my gun with me. I had no sooner shot, but there rose up a little cloud of fowls, which I had not seen at all, from among the corn itself. This touched me sensibly, for I foresaw that in a few days they would devour all my hopes, that I should be starved, and never be able to raise a crop at all, and what to do I could not tell. I went among it to see what damage was already done, and found they had spoiled a good deal of it ; but that as it was yet too green for them, the loss was not so great but that the remainder was like to be a good crop if it could be saved. I stayed by it to load my gun, and then coming away, I could easily see the thieves sitting upon all the trees about me, as if they only waited till I was gone away. I was so provoked, knowing that every grain that they ate now was, as it might be said, a peck-loaf to me in the consequence, that I fired again, and killed three of them. This was what I wished for ; so I took them up, and served them as we serve notorious thieves in England, viz., hanged them in chains, for a terror to others. It is impossible to imagine almost that this should have such an effect as it had, for the fowls would not only not come

at the corn, but, in short, they forsook all that part of the island, and I could never see a bird near the place as long as my scarecrows hung there.

About the latter end of December I reaped my crop. I was sadly put to it for a scythe or a sickle to cut it down, and all I could do was to make one as well as I could out of one of the broadswords, or cutlasses, which I saved among the arms out of the ship. However, as my first crop was but small, I had no great difficulty to cut it down ; in short, I reaped it my way ; for I cut nothing off but the ears, and carried it away in a great basket which I had made, and so rubbed it out with my hands ; and at the end of all my harvesting, I found that out of my half peck of seed I had near two bushels of rice, and above two bushels and a half of barley, that is to say, by my guess, for I had no measure at that time.

Within doors, that is, when it rained, and I could not go out, I found employment on the following occasions ; always observing that all the while I was at work I diverted myself with talking to my parret, and teaching him to speak, and I quickly learned him to know his own name, and at last to speak it out pretty loud, " Poll," which was the first word I ever heard spoken in the island by any mouth but my own. Now, as I said, I had a great employment upon my hands, as follows, viz., I had long studied, by some means or other, to make myself some earthen vessels, which indeed I wanted sorely, but knew not where to come at them. However, considering the heat of the climate, I did not doubt but if I could find out any such clay, I might botch up some such pot as might, being dried in the sun, be hard enough and strong enough to bear handling.

It would make the reader pity me, or rather laugh at me, to tell how many awkward ways I took to raise this paste ; what odd, misshapen, ugly things I made ; how many of them fell in, and how many fell out, the clay not being stiff



WHAT ODD, MISSHAPEN, UGLY THINGS I MADE

enough to bear its own weight ; how many cracked by the over-violent heat of the sun, being set out too hastily ; and how many fell in pieces with only removing, as well before as after they were dried ; and, in a word, how, after having laboured hard to find the clay, to dig it, to temper it, to bring it home, and work it, I could not make above two large earthen ugly things (I cannot call them jars) in about two months' labour. However, as the sun baked these two very dry and hard, I lifted them very gently up, and set them down again in two great wicker baskets, which I had made on purpose for them that they might not break ; and as between the pot and the basket there was a little room to spare, I stuffed it full of the rice and barley straw, and these two pots being to stand always dry, I thought would hold my dry corn, and perhaps the meal, when the corn was bruised.

But all this would not answer my end, which was to get an earthen pot to hold what was liquid, and bear the fire,

which none of these could do. It happened after some time, making a pretty large fire for cooking my meat, when I went to put it out after I had done with it, I found a broken piece of one of my earthenware vessels in the fire, burnt as hard as a stone, and red as a tile. I was agreeably surprised to see it, and said to myself that certainly they might be made to burn whole, if they would burn broken. This set me to studying how to order my fire, so as to make it burn me some pots. I placed three large pipkins, and two or three pots in a pile, one upon another, and placed my firewood all round it, with a great heap of embers under them. I plied the fire with fresh fuel round the outside, and upon the top, till I saw the pots in the inside red-hot quite through, and observed that they did not crack at all. When I saw them clear red, I let them stand in that heat about five or six hours, till I found one of them, though it did not crack, did melt or run, for the sand which was mixed with the clay melted by the violence of the heat ; so I slacked my fire gradually till the pots began to abate of the red colour ; and watching them all night, that I might not let the fire abate too fast, in the morning I had three very good, I will not say handsome, pipkins, and two other earthen pots, as hard burnt as could be desired, and one of them perfectly glazed with the running of the sand.

No joy at a thing of so mean a nature was ever equal to mine, when I found I had made an earthen pot that would bear the fire ; and I had hardly patience to stay till they were cold, before I set one upon the fire again, with some water in it, to boil me some meat, which it did admirably well ; and with a piece of a kid I made some very good broth.

My next concern was to get me a stone mortar to stamp or beat some corn in. I spent many a day to find out a great stone big enough to cut hollow, and make fit for a mortar, and could find none at all, except what was in the solid rock, and which I had no way to dig or cut out. So, after a great

deal of time lost in searching for a stone, I gave it over, and resolved to look out for a great block of hard wood, which I found indeed much easier ; and getting one as big as I had strength to stir, I rounded it, and formed it in the outside with my axe and hatchet, and then, with the help of fire, and infinite labour, made a hollow place in it. After this, I made a great heavy pestle, or beater, of the wood called the iron-wood ; and this I prepared and laid by against I had my next crop of corn, when I proposed to myself to grind, or rather pound, my corn into meal, to make my bread.

My next difficulty was to make a sieve, or search, to dress my meal, and to part it from the bran and the husk, without which I did not see it possible I could have any bread. This was a most difficult thing, so much as but to think on, for to be sure I had nothing like the necessary thing to make it ; I mean fine thin canvas or stuff, to search the meal through. And here I was at a full stop for many months, nor did I really know what to do ; linen I had none left, but what was mere rags ; I had goats'-hair, but neither knew I how to weave it or spin it ; and had I known how, here was no tools to work it with. All the remedy that I found for this was, that at last I did remember I had, among the seamen's clothes which were saved out of the ship, some neckcloths of calico or muslin ; and with some pieces of these I made three small sieves, but proper enough for the work ; and thus I made shift for some years.

The baking part was the next thing to be considered, and how I should make bread when I came to have corn ; for, first, I had no yeast. As to that part, as there was no supplying the want, so I did not concern myself much about it ; but for an oven I was indeed in great pain. At length I found out an experiment for that also, which was this : I made some earthen vessels very broad, but not deep, that is to say, about two feet diameter, and not above nine inches

deep ; these I burned in the fire, as I had done the other, and laid them by ; and when I wanted to bake, I made a great fire upon my hearth, which I had paved with some square tiles of my own making and burning also. When the firewood was burned pretty much into embers, or live coals, I drew them forward upon this hearth, so as to cover it all over, and there I let them lie till the hearth was very hot ; then sweeping away all the embers, I set down my loaf, or loaves, and wheeling down the earthen pot upon them, drew the embers all round the outside of the pot, to keep in and add to the heat. And thus, as well as in the best oven in the world, I baked my barley-loaves, and became, in little time, a pastry-cook into the bargain ; for I made myself several cakes of the rice, and puddings.

It need not be wondered at, if all these things took me up most part of the third year of my abode here ; for it is to be observed, that in the intervals of these things I had my new harvest and husbandry to manage ; for I reaped my corn in its season, and carried it home as well as I could, and laid it up in the ear, in my large baskets, till I had time to rub it out, for I had no floor to thrash it on, or instrument to thrash it with.

All the while these things were doing, you may be sure my thoughts run many times upon the prospect of land which I had seen from the other side of the island, and I was not without secret wishes that I were on shore there, fancying that by seeing the mainland, and being in an inhabited country, I might find some way or other to convey myself farther, and perhaps at last find some means of escape. But I made no allowance for the dangers of such a condition, and how I might fall into the hands of savages ; that if I once came into their power, I should run a hazard more than a thousand to one of being killed, and perhaps of being eaten ; for I had heard that the people of the Caribbean coasts were cannibals, or man-eaters, and I knew by the latitude that I could not be far off from that shore.

Now I wished for my boy Xury, and the long-boat with the shoulder-of-mutton sail, with which I sailed above a thousand miles on the coast of Africa ; then I thought I would go and look at our ship's boat, which, as I have said, was blown up upon the shore a great way, in the storm, when we were first cast away. She lay almost where she did at first, and was turned almost bottom upward, but no water about her as before. This put me upon thinking whether it was not possible to make myself a canoe, or *periagua*, such as the natives of those climates make, even without tools, or, as I might say, without hands, viz., of the trunk of a great tree. I went to work upon this boat the most like a fool that ever man did who had any of his senses awake. I pleased myself with the design, without determining whether I was ever able to undertake it. Not but that the difficulty of launching my boat came often into my head ; but I put a stop to my own inquiries into it by this foolish answer which I gave myself, "Let's first make it ; I'll warrant I'll find some way or other to get it along when 'tis done." This was a most preposterous method ; but the eagerness of my fancy prevailed, and to work I went. I felled a cedar tree : I question much whether Solomon ever had such a one for the building of the Temple at Jerusalem. It was five feet ten inches diameter at the lower part next the stump, and four feet eleven inches diameter at the end of twenty-two feet. It was not without infinite labour that I felled this tree. I was twenty days hacking and hewing at it at the bottom ; I was fourteen more getting the branches and limbs, and the vast spreading head of it cut off, which I hacked and hewed through with axe and hatchet, and inexpressible labour. After this, it cost me a month to shape it and dub it to a proportion, and to something like the bottom of a boat, that it might swim upright as it ought to do. It cost me near three months more to clear the inside, and work it so as to make an exact boat of it. This I did by mere mallet and chisel, and by

the dint of hard labour, till I had brought it to be a very handsome *periagua*, and big enough to have carried six and twenty men, and consequently big enough to have carried me and all my cargo.

When I had gone through this work, I was extremely delighted with it. The boat was really much bigger than I ever saw a canoe or *periagua*, that was made of one tree, in my life. But all my devices to get it into the water failed me, though they cost me infinite labour too. It lay about one hundred yards from the water, and not more ; but the first inconvenience was, it was uphill towards the creek. Well, to take away this discouragement, I resolved to dig into the surface of the earth, and so make a declivity. This I began, and it cost me a prodigious deal of pains ; but who grudges pains, that have their deliverance in view ? But when this was worked through, and this difficulty managed, it was still much at one, for I could no more stir the canoe than I could the other boat.

Then I measured the distance of ground, and resolved to cut a dock or canal, to bring the water up to the canoe, seeing I could not bring the canoe down to the water. Well, I began this work ; and when I began to enter into it, and calculate how deep it was to be dug, how broad, how the stuff to be thrown out, I found that by the number of hands I had, being none but my own, it must have been ten or twelve years before I should have gone through with it ; for the shore lay high, so that at the upper end it must have been at least twenty feet deep ; so at length, though with great reluctancy, I gave this attempt over also. This grieved me heartily ; and now I saw, though too late, the folly of beginning a work before we count the cost, and before we judge rightly of our own strength to go through with it.

My clothes began to decay mightily. As to linen, I had none a good while, except some chequered shirts which I found in the chests of the other seamen, and which I

carefully preserved, because many times I could bear no other clothes on but a shirt ; and it was a very great help to me that I had, among all the men's clothes of the ship, almost three dozen of shirts. There were also several thick watch-coats of the seamen's which were left indeed, but they were too hot to wear ; and though it is true that the weather was so violent hot that there was no need of clothes, yet I could not go quite naked, no, though I had been inclined to it. The reason why was, I could not bear the heat of the sun so well when quite naked as with some clothes on ; nay, the very heat frequently blistered my skin ; whereas, with a shirt on, the air itself made some motion, and whistling under that shirt, was twofold cooler than without it. No more could I ever bring myself to go out in the heat of the sun without a cap of a hat. The heat of the sun beating with such violence, as it does in that place, would give me the headache. Upon those views, I began to consider about putting the few rags I had, which I called clothes, into some order. I had worn out all the waistcoats I had, and my business was now to try if I could not make jackets out of the great watch-coats which I had by me, and with such other materials as I had ; so I set to work a-tailoring, or rather, indeed, a-botching, for I made most piteous work of it. However, I made shift to make two or three new waistcoats, which I hoped would serve me a great while. As for breeches or drawers, I made but a very sorry shift indeed till afterward. I should mention that I had saved the skins of all the creatures that I killed, and I had hung them up stretched out with sticks in the sun, by which means some of them were very useful. The first thing I made of these was a great cap for my head, with the hair on the outside, to shoot off the rain ; and this I performed so well, that I made me a suit of clothes wholly of these skins, that is to say, a waistcoat, and breeches open at knees, and both loose, for they were rather wanting to keep me cool than to keep me warm.

I must not omit to acknowledge that they were wretchedly made ; for if I was a bad carpenter, I was a worse tailor. However, they were such as I made very good shift with ; and when I was abroad, if it happened to rain, the hair of my waistcoat and cap being outermost, I was kept very dry.

After this I spent a great deal of time and pains to make me an umbrella. I was indeed in great want of one. I had seen them made in the Brazils, where they are very useful in the great heats ; and I felt the heats every jot as great here, and greater too, being nearer the equator. Besides, as I was obliged to be much abroad, it was a most useful thing to me, as well for the rains as the heats. I took a world of pains at it, and was a great while before I could make anything likely to hold : nay, after I thought I had hit the way, I spoiled two or three before I made one to my mind. The main difficulty I found was to make it to let down. I could make it spread ; but if it did not let down too, and draw in, it was not portable for me any way but just over my head, which would not do. However, at last I made one to answer, and covered it with skins, the hair upwards, so that it cast off the rains like a penthouse, and kept off the sun so effectually, that I could walk out in the hottest of the weather with greater advantage than I could before in the coolest ; and when I had no need of it, could close it, and carry it under my arm.

Thus I lived mighty comfortably, my mind being entirely composed by resigning to the will of God, and throwing myself wholly upon the disposal of His providence.

I cannot say that after this, for five years, any extraordinary thing happened to me ; but I lived on in the same course, in the same posture and place, just as before. I had one labour, to make me a canoe, which at last I finished ; so that by digging a canal to it of six feet wide, and four feet deep, I brought it into the creek almost half a mile. I was near two years about it, yet I never grudged my labour, in hopes of having a boat to go off to sea at last.

Though my little *periagua* was finished, yet the size of it was not at all answerable to the design which I had in view when I made the first. But as I had a boat, my next design was to make a tour round the island. For this purpose, that I might do everything with discretion and consideration, I fitted up a little mast to my boat, and made a sail to it out of some of the pieces of the ship's sail, which lay in store, and of which I had a great stock by me. I found she would sail very well. Then I made little lockers, or boxes, at either end of my boat, to put provisions, necessaries, and ammunition, etc., into, to be kept dry, either from rain or the spray of the sea ; and a little long hollow place I cut in the inside of the boat, where I could lay my gun, making a flap to hang down over it to keep it dry. I fixed my umbrella also in a step at the stern, like a mast, to stand over my head, and keep the heat of the sun off of me, like an awning ; and thus I every now and then took a little voyage upon the sea, but never went far out, not far from the little creek. But at last, being eager to view the circumference of my little kingdom, I resolved upon my tour ; and accordingly I victualled my ship for the voyage, putting in two dozen of my loaves (cakes I should rather call them) of barley bread, an earthen pot full of parched rice, a food I eat a great deal of, a little bottle of rum, half a goat, and powder and shot for killing more, and two large watch-coats, of those which, as I mentioned before, I had saved out of the seamen's chests ; these I took, one to lie upon, and the other to cover me in the night.

It was the 6th of November, in the sixth year of my reign, or my captivity, which you please, that I set out on this voyage, and I found it much longer than I expected ; for though the island itself was not very large, yet when I came to the east side of it I found a great ledge of rocks lie out above two leagues into the sea, some above water, some under it, and beyond that a shoal of sand, lying dry half

a league more ; so that I was obliged to go a great way out to sea to double the point. In about an hour I came within about a mile of the shore, where, it being smooth water, I soon got to land ; and refreshing myself with such things as I had, I brought my boat close to the shore, under some trees, and laid me down to sleep, being quite spent with the labour and fatigue of the voyage.

I resolved in the morning to make my way westward along the shore, to see if there was no creek where I might lay up my frigate in safety, so as to have her again if I wanted her. In about three miles, or thereabouts, coasting the shore, I came to a very good inlet or bay, about a mile over, which narrowed till it came to a very little rivulet or brook, where I found a very convenient harbour for my boat, and where she lay as if she had been in a little dock made on purpose for her. Here I put in, and having stowed my boat very safe, I went on shore to look about me, and see where I was. I soon found I had but a little passed by the place where I had been before, when I travelled on foot to that shore ; so taking nothing out of my boat but my gun and my umbrella, for it was exceedingly hot, I began my march. The way was comfortable enough after such a voyage as I had been upon, and I reached my old bower in the evening, where I found everything standing as I left it. I got over the fence, and laid me down in the shade to rest my limbs, for I was very weary, and fell asleep.

I began now to perceive my powder abated considerably, and I began seriously to consider what I must do when I should have no more powder ; I had, I may tell you, in the third year of my being here kept a young kid, and bred her up tame. I could never find in my heart to kill her, till she died at last of mere age. But being now in the eleventh year of my residence, and, my ammunition growing low, I set myself to study some art to trap and snare the goats, to see whether I could not catch some of them alive.

To this purpose, I made snares to hamper them, and I do believe they were more than once taken in them ; but my tackle was not good, for I had no wire, and I always found them broken, and my bait devoured. At length I resolved to try a pitfall ; so I dug several large pits in the earth, in places where I had observed the goats used to feed, and over these pits I placed hurdles, of my own making too, with a great weight upon them ; and several times I put ears of barley and dry rice, without setting the trap, and I could easily perceive that the goats had gone in and eaten up the corn, for I could see the mark of their feet. At length I set three traps in one night, and going the next morning, I found them all standing, and yet the bait eaten and gone ; this was very discouraging. So I altered my trap, and going one morning, found in one of them a large old he-goat, and in one of the other three kids. As to the old one, I knew not what to do with him, he was so fierce I durst not go into the pit to him ; that is to say, to go about to bring him away alive, which was what I wanted. So I even let him out, and he ran away, as if he had been frightened out of his wits.

Taking the three kids one by one, I tied them with strings together, and with some difficulty brought them all home. It was a good while before they would feed, but throwing them some sweet corn, it tempted them, and they began to be tame. And now I found that if I expected to supply myself with goat's flesh when I had no powder or shot left, breeding some up tame was my only way, when perhaps I might have them about my house like a flock of sheep. But then it presently occurred to me that I must keep the tame from the wild, or else they would always run wild when they grew up ; and the only way for this was to have some enclosed piece of ground, well fenced either with hedge or pale, to keep them in effectually. I resolved to enclose a piece of about 150 yards in length, and 100 yards in breadth ; which, as it would maintain as many as I

should have in any reasonable time, so, as my flock increased, I could add more ground to my enclosure. This answered my end, and in about a year and half I had a flock of about twelve goats, kids, and all ; and in two years more I had three and forty, besides several that I took and killed for my food. And after that I enclosed five several pieces of ground to feed them in, with little pens to drive them into, to take them as I wanted, and gates out of one piece of ground into another. But this was not all, for now I not only had goat's flesh to feed on when I pleased, but milk too, a thing which, indeed, in my beginning, I did not so much as think of. For now I set up my dairy, and had sometimes a gallon or two of milk in a day ; and as Nature, who gives supplies of food to every creature, dictates even naturally how to make use of it, so I, that had never milked a cow, much less a goat, or seen butter or cheese made, very readily and handily, though after a great many essays, made me both butter and cheese at last, and never wanted it afterwards.

It would have made a stoic smile, to have seen me and my little family sit down to dinner. There was my majesty, the prince and lord of the whole island ; I had the lives of all my subjects at my absolute command. I could hang, draw, give liberty, and take it away ; and no rebels among all my subjects. Then to see how like a king I dined, too, all alone, attended by my servants. Poll, as if he had been my favourite, was the only person permitted to talk to me. My dog, who was now grown very old and crazy, sat always at my right hand, and two cats, one on one side the table, and one on the other, expecting now and then a bit from my hand, as a mark of special favour.

I was something impatient to have the use of my boat, though very loth to run any more hazards ; and therefore sometimes I sat contriving ways to get her about the island, and at other times I sat myself down contented enough without her. But I had a strange uneasiness in my mind

to go down to the point of the island, where, as I have said, in my last ramble, I went up the hill to see how the shore lay, and how the current set, that I might see what I had to do. This inclination increased upon me every day, and at length I resolved to travel thither by land, following the edge of the shore. I did so; but had any one in England been to meet such a man as I was, it must either have frightened them, or raised a great deal of laughter. I had a great high shapeless cap, made of a goat's skin, with a flap hanging down behind, as well to keep the sun from me, as to shoot the rain off from running into my neck; nothing being so hurtful in these climates as the rain upon the flesh, under the clothes. I had a short jacket of goat's skin, the skirts coming down to about the middle of my thighs; and a pair of open-kneed breeches of the same. The breeches were made of the skin of an old he-goat, whose hair hung down such a length on either side, that, like pantaloons, it reached to the middle of my legs. Stockings and shoes I had none, but had made me a pair of somethings, I scarce know what to call them, like buskins, to flap over my legs, and lace on either side like spatterdashes; but of a most barbarous shape, as indeed were all the rest of my clothes. I had on a broad belt of goat's skin dried, which I drew together with two thongs of the same, instead of buckles; and in a kind of a frog on either side of this, instead of a sword and a dagger, hung a little saw and a hatchet, one on one side, one on the other. I had another belt, not so broad, and fastened in the same manner, which hung over my shoulder; and at the end of it, under my left arm, hung two pouches, both made of goat's skin too; in one of which hung my powder, in the other my shot. At my back I carried my basket, on my shoulder my gun, and over my head a great clumsy ugly goat's-skin umbrella, but which, after all, was the most necessary thing I had about me, next to my gun. As for my face, the colour of it was really not so mulatto-like as

one might expect from a man not at all careful of it, and living within nineteen degrees of the equator. My beard I had once suffered to grow till it was about a quarter of a yard long ; but as I had both scissors and razors sufficient, I had cut it pretty short, except what grew on my upper lip, which I had trimmed into a large pair of Mahometan whiskers, such as I had seen worn by some Turks whom I saw at Sallee ; for the Moors did not wear such.

In this kind of figure I went my new journey, and was out five or six days. And having no boat now to take care of, I went over the land, a nearer way, to the same height that I was upon before ; when, looking forward to the point of the rocks which lay out, and which I was obliged to double with my boat, I was surprised to see the sea all smooth and quiet, no rippling, no motion, no current, any more there than in other places. My observation convinced me that I had nothing to do but to observe the ebbing and the flowing of the tide, and I might very easily bring my boat about the island again. But I had such a terror upon my spirits at the remembrance of the danger I had been in, that I took up another resolution, which was more safe, though more laborious ; and this was, that I would build, or rather make me another *periagua* or canoe ; and so have one for one side of the island, and one for the other.

It happened one day, about noon, going towards my boat, I was exceedingly surprised with the print of a man's naked foot on the shore, which was very plain to be seen in the sand. I stood like one thunderstruck. I listened, I looked round me, I could hear nothing, nor see anything. I went up to a rising ground, to look farther. I went up the shore, and down the shore, but it was all one ; I could see no other impression but that one. I went to it again to see if there were any more, and to observe if it might not be my fancy ; but there was no room for that, for there was exactly the very print of a foot—toes, heel, and every part

of a foot. How it came thither I knew not, nor could in the least imagine. But after innumerable fluttering thoughts I came home to my fortification terrified to the last degree, looking behind me at every two or three steps, mistaking every bush and tree, and fancying every stump at a distance to be a man. When I came to my castle, for so I think I called it ever after this, I fled into it like one pursued. Whether I went over by the ladder, as first contrived, or went in at the hole in the rock, which I called a door, I cannot remember. I slept none that night. I was so embarrassed with my own frightful ideas of the thing, that I formed nothing but dismal imaginations to myself, even though I was now a great way off it. For how should any other thing in human shape come into the place? Where was the vessel that brought them? What mark was there of any other footsteps? And how was it possible a man should come there?

I presently concluded then, that it must be some of the savages of the mainland over against me, who had wandered out to sea in their canoes, and, either driven by the currents or by contrary winds, had made the island, and had been on shore, but were gone away again.

While these reflections were rolling upon my mind, I was very thankful in my thoughts that I was so happy as not to be thereabouts at that time, or that they did not see my boat, by which they would have concluded that some inhabitants had been in the place, and perhaps have searched farther for me. Then terrible thoughts racked my imagination about their having found my boat, and that there were people here; and that if so, I should certainly have them come again in greater numbers, and devour me; that if it should happen so that they should not find me, yet they would find my enclosure, destroy all my corn, carry away all my flock of tame goats, and I should perish at last for mere want.

Now I began sorely to repent that I had dug my cave so

large as to bring a door through again, which door, as I said, came out beyond where my fortification joined to the rock. Upon maturely considering this, therefore, I resolved to draw me a second fortification, in the same manner of a semi-circle, at a distance from my wall, just where I had planted a double row of trees about twelve years before, of which I made mention. These trees having been planted so thick before, they wanted but a few piles to be driven between them, that they should be thicker and stronger, and my wall would be soon finished. So that I had now a double wall ; and my outer wall was thickened with pieces of timber, old cables, and everything I could think of, to make it strong, having in it seven little holes, about as big as I might put my arm out at. In the inside of this I thickened my wall to above ten feet thick, with continual bringing earth out of my cave, and laying it at the foot of the wall, and walking upon it ; and through the seven holes I contrived to plant the muskets. These I planted like my cannon, and fitted them into frames, that held them like a carriage, that so I could fire all the seven guns in two minutes' time. This wall I was many a weary month a-finishin', and yet never thought myself safe till it was done.

When this was done, I stuck all the ground without my wall, for a great way every way, as full with stakes, or sticks, of the osier-like wood, which I found so apt to grow, as they could well stand ; insomuch, that I believe I might set in near twenty thousand of them, leaving a pretty large space between them and my wall, that I might have room to see an enemy, and they might have no shelter from the young trees, if they attempted to approach my outer wall.

Thus in two years' time I had a thick grove ; and in five or six years' time I had a wood before my dwelling, growing so monstrous thick and strong, that it was indeed perfectly impassable ; and no men, of what kind soever, would ever imagine that there was anything beyond it, much less

a habitation. As for the way which I proposed to myself to go in and out, for I left no avenue, it was by setting two ladders, one to a part of the rock which was low, and then broke in, and left room to place another ladder upon that ; so when the two ladders were taken down, no man living could come down to me without mischieving himself ; and if they had come down, they were still on the outside of my outer wall. Thus I took all the measures human prudence could suggest for my own preservation ; and it will be seen that they were not altogether without reason.

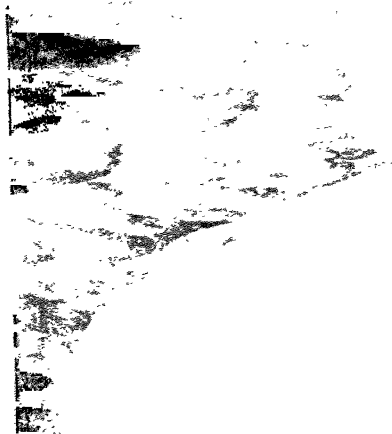
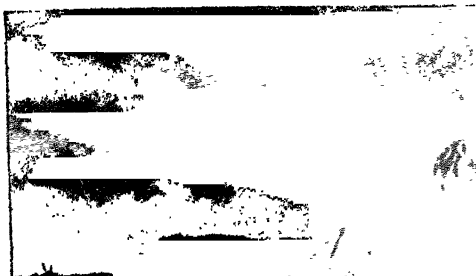
While this was doing, I was not altogether careless of my other affairs ; for I had a great concern upon me for my little herd of goats. Accordingly I spent some time to find out the most retired parts of the island ; and I pitched upon one which was as private indeed as my heart could wish for. It was a little damp piece of ground, in the middle of the hollow and thick woods. I immediately went to work with this piece of ground, and in less than a month's time I had so fenced it round, that my flock, or herd, call it which you please, were well enough secured in it. After I had thus secured one part of my little living stock, I went about the whole island, searching for another private place to make such another deposit ; when, wandering more to the west point of the island than I had ever done yet, and looking out to sea, I thought I saw a boat upon the sea, at a great distance. I had found a perspective glass or two in one of the seamen's chests, which I saved out of our ship, but I had it not about me ; and this was so remote, that I could not tell what to make of it, though I looked at it till my eyes were not able to hold to look any longer. Whether it was a boat or not, I do not know ; but as I descended from the hill, I could see no more of it, so I gave it over ; only I resolved to go no more out without a perspective glass.

When I was come down the hill to the shore, being the S.W. point of the island, I was perfectly confounded and amazed ; nor is it possible for me to express the horror of

my mind at seeing the shore spread with skulls, hands, feet, and other bones of human bodies ; and particularly, I observed a place where there had been a fire made, and a circle dug in the earth, like a cockpit, where it is supposed the savage wretches had sat down to their inhuman feastings upon the bodies of their fellow-creatures. I was so astonished with the sight of these things, that I entertained no notion of any danger to myself from it for a long while. All my apprehensions were buried in the thoughts of such a pitch of inhuman, hellish brutality, and the horror of the degeneracy of human nature, which, though I had heard of often, yet I never had so near a view of before. In short, I turned away my face from the horrid spectacle. I got me up the hill again with all the speed I could, and walked on towards my own habitation.

And then recovering myself, I looked up with the utmost affection of my soul, and gave God thanks, that had cast my first lot in a part of the world where I was distinguished from such dreadful creatures as these.

I began to be much easier now, as to the safety of my circumstances ; for I observed that these wretches never came to this island in search of what they could get ; perhaps not seeking, not wanting, or not expecting, anything here ; and having often, no doubt, been up in the covered, woody part of it, without finding anything to their purpose. I knew I had been here now almost eighteen years, and never saw the least footsteps of human creature there before ; and I might be here eighteen more as entirely concealed as I was now, if I did not discover myself to them, which I had no manner of occasion to do ; it being my only business to keep myself entirely concealed where I was, unless I found a better sort of creatures than cannibals to make myself known to. Yet I entertained such an abhorrence of the savage wretches, that I continued pensive and sad, and kept close within my own circle for almost two years after this.



"I could plainly see the wreck of a ship."

Time, however, and the satisfaction I had that I was in no danger of being discovered by these people, began to wear off my uneasiness about them ; and I began to live just in the same composed manner as before ; only with this difference, that I used more caution, and particularly I was more cautious of firing my gun, lest any of them being on the island should happen to hear of it. And it was, therefore, a very good providence to me that I had furnished myself with a tame breed of goats, that I needed not hunt any more about the woods, or shoot at them. So that for two years after this I believe I never fired my gun once off, though I never went out without it ; and, which was more, as I had saved three pistols out of the ship, I always carried them out with me, or at least two of them, sticking them in my goat's-skin belt. Also I furbished up one of the great cutlasses that I had out of the ship, and made me a belt to put it on also ; so that I was now a most formidable fellow to look at when I went abroad, if you add to the former description of myself the particular of two pistols and a great broadsword hanging at my side in a belt, but without a scabbard.

My boat and everything that I had left belonging to her I removed from the other side of the island, that there might not be the least shadow of any discovery of any human habitation upon the island.

I believe the reader of this will not think strange if I confess that these anxieties, these constant dangers I lived in, and the concern that was now upon me, put an end to all invention, and to all the contrivances that I had laid for my future accommodations and conveniences. I cared not to drive a nail, or chop a stick of wood now, for fear the noise I should make should be heard ; much less would I fire a gun, for the same reason ; and, above all, I was intolerably uneasy at making any fire, lest the smoke, which is visible at a great distance in the day, should betray me ; and for this reason I removed that part of my business

which required fire, such as burning of pots and pipes, etc., into my new apartment in the woods ; where, after I had been some time, I found, to my unspeakable consolation, a natural cave in the earth, which went in a vast way, and where, I dare say, no savage would be so hardy as to venture in ; nor, indeed, would any man else, but one who, like me, wanted a safe retreat. The mouth of this hollow was at the bottom of a great rock, where I was cutting down some thick branches of trees to make charcoal. The reason of my making this charcoal was that I was afraid of making a smoke about my habitation, as I said before ; and yet I could not live there without baking my bread, cooking my meat, etc. So I contrived to burn some wood here, as I had seen done in England under turf, till it became chark, or dry coal ; and then putting the fire out, I preserved the coal to perform the other services which fire was wanting for at home, without danger of smoke. While I was cutting down some wood here, I perceived that behind a very thick branch of low brushwood, or underwood, there was a kind of hollow place. I was curious to look into it ; and getting with difficulty into the mouth of it, I found it was pretty large ; that is to say, sufficient for me to stand upright in. But I must confess to you I made more haste out than I did in when, looking farther into the place, and which was perfectly dark, I saw two broad shining eyes of some creature, whether devil or man I knew not, which twinkled like two stars, the dim light from the cave's mouth shining directly in, and making the reflection. But plucking up my spirits as well as I could, I stepped forward again, and by the light of a firebrand, holding it up a little over my head, I saw lying on the ground a most monstrous, frightful, old he-goat, just making his will, as we say, and gasping for life ; and dying, indeed, of mere old age. I stirred him a little to see if I could get him out, and he essayed to get up, but was not able to raise himself ; and I thought with myself he might even lie

there ; for if he had frightened me so, he would certainly fright any of the savages, if any of them should be so hardy as to come in there while he had any life in him. I was now recovered from my surprise, and began to look round me, when I found the cave was but very small ; that is to say, it might be about twelve feet over. I observed also that there was a place at the farther side of it that went in farther, but was so low, that it required me to creep upon my hands and knees to go into it, and whither I went I knew not ; so having no candle, I gave it over for some time, but resolved to come again the next day, provided with candles and a tinder-box, which I had made of the lock of one of the muskets, with some wild-fire in the pan. Accordingly the next day I came provided with six large candles of goat's tallow ; and going into this low place upon all fours, I found the roof rose higher up, I believe near twenty feet. But never was such a glorious sight as it was to look round the sides and roof of this vault or cave ; the walls reflected a hundred thousand lights to me from my two candles.

It was a place of security, and such a retreat as I wanted. I was really rejoiced at the discovery, and resolved, without any delay, to bring some of those things which I was most anxious about to this place ; particularly my magazine of powder, and all my spare arms.

I persuaded myself, while I was here, if five hundred savages were to hunt me, they could never find me out. The old goat died in the mouth of the cave the next day.

It was now the month of December, in my twenty-third year ; and the particular time of my harvest, and required my being much abroad in the fields ; when, going out early, even before it was thorough daylight, I was surprised with seeing a light of some fire upon the shore, at a distance from me of about two miles, towards the end of the island where I had observed some savages had been, as before ; but not on the other side ; but, to my great affliction, it was

on my side of the island. I was indeed terribly surprised at the sight, and stopped short within my grove, not daring to go out, lest I might be surprised. I went back directly to my castle, pulled up the ladder after me, and made all things without look as wild and natural as I could. Then I prepared myself within, putting myself in a posture of defence. I loaded all my cannon, as I called them, and all my pistols, and resolved to defend myself to the last gasp ; not forgetting seriously to commend myself to the Divine protection. And in this posture I continued about two hours ; but began to be mighty impatient for intelligence abroad, for I had no spies to send out. After sitting a while thus, and musing what I should do in this case, I was not able to bear sitting in ignorance any longer ; so mounting to the top of the hill, and pulling out my perspective-glass, I laid me down flat on my belly on the ground, and began to look for the place. I presently found there was no less than nine naked savages sitting round a small fire they had made, not to warm them, for they had no need of that, the weather being extreme hot, but, as I supposed, to dress some of their barbarous diet of human flesh which they had brought with them, whether alive or dead, I could not know. They had two canoes with them, which they had hauled up upon the shore ; and as it was then tide of ebb, they seemed to me to wait for the return of the flood to go away again. As I expected, so it proved ; for as soon as the tide made to the westward, I saw them all take boat, and row away. I should have observed, that for an hour and more before they went off, they went to dancing ; and I could easily discern their postures and gestures by my glasses.

As soon as I saw them shipped and gone, I took two guns upon my shoulders, and two pistols at my girdle, and my great sword by my side, without a scabbard, and with all the speed I was able to make I went away to the hill where I had discovered the first appearance of all. And

as soon as I gat thither, which was not less than two hours (for I could not go apace, being laden with arms), I perceived there had been three canoes more of savages on that place ; and looking out farther, I saw they were all at sea together, making over for the main. This was a dreadful sight to me, especially when, going down to the shore, I could see the marks of horror which the dismal work they had been about had left behind it, viz., the blood, the bones, and part of the flesh of human bodies, eaten and devoured by those wretches with merriment and sport. I was so filled with indignation at the sight, that I began now to premeditate the destruction of the next that I saw there, let them be who or how many soever.

The perturbation of my mind, during the next fifteen or sixteen months' interval, was very great. I slept unquiet, dreamed always frightful dreams, and often started out of my sleep in the night. But, to waive all this for a while, it was in the middle of May when I was surprised with a noise of a gun, as I thought, fired at sea. I started up in the greatest haste imaginable, and, in a trice, got to the top of the hill the very moment that a flash of fire bid me listen for a second gun, which accordingly, in about half a minute, I heard ; and, by the sound, knew that it was from that part of the sea where I was driven down the current in my boat. I immediately considered that this must be some ship in distress, and that they had some comrade, or some other ship in company, and fired these guns for signals of distress, and to obtain help, so I brought together all the dry wood I could get at hand, and, making a good handsome pile, I set it on fire upon the hill. As soon as ever my fire blazed up I heard another gun, and after that several others, all from the same quarter. I plied my fire all night long till day broke ; and when it was broad day, and the air cleared up, I saw something at a great distance at sea, full east of the island, whether a sail or a hull I could not distinguish, no, not with my glasses, the distance was so great, and the

weather still something hazy also ; at least it was so out at sea. I looked frequently at it all that day, and soon perceived that it did not move ; so I presently concluded that it was a ship at an anchor. And being eager, you may be sure, to be satisfied, I took my gun in my hand and ran toward the south side of the island, to the rocks ; and getting up there, the weather by this time being perfectly clear, I could plainly see the wreck of a ship, cast away in the night upon those concealed rocks which I found when I was out in my boat. Thus, what is one man's safety is another man's destruction ; for it seems these men, whoever they were, being out of their knowledge, and the rocks being wholly under water, had been driven upon them in the night, the wind blowing hard at E. and E.N.E. Had they seen the island, as I must necessarily suppose they did not, they must have endeavoured to have saved themselves on shore by the help of their boat.

“ Oh that there had been but one or two, nay, or but one soul, saved out of this ship, to have escaped to me, that I might but have had one companion, one fellow-creature, to have spoken to me, and to have conversed with ! ” In all the time of my solitary life, I never felt so earnest, so strong a desire after the society of my fellow-creatures, or so deep a regret at the want of it. I had only the affliction, some days after, to see the corpse of a drowned boy come on shore at the end of the island which was next the shipwreck. In his pocket were two pieces of eight and a tobacco-pipe. The last was to me of ten times more value than the first.

I had a great mind to venture out in my boat to this wreck, not doubting but I might find something on board that might be useful to me. But that did not altogether press me so much as the possibility that there might be yet some living creature on board, whose life I might not only save, but might by saving that life, comfort my own to the last degree.

I prepared everything for my voyage. Having a strong steerage with my paddle, I went at a great rate directly for the wreck, and in less than two hours I came up to it. It was a dismal sight to look at. The ship, which, by its building, was Spanish, stuck fast, jammed in between two rocks. All the stern and quarter of her was beaten to pieces with the sea ; and as her fore-castle had run on with great violence, her mainmast and foremast were broken short off ; but her bowsprit was sound, and the head and bow appeared firm. When I came close to her a dog appeared, who, seeing me, yelped and cried ; and as soon as I called him, jumped into the sea, and I took him into the boat, but found him almost dead for hunger and thirst. I gave him a cake of my bread, and he ate it like a ravenous wolf that had been starving a fortnight. I then gave the poor creature some fresh water, with which, if I would have let him, he would have burst himself. After this I went on board ; but the first sight I met with was two men drowned in the cook-room, or fore-castle of the ship, with their arms fast about one another.

Besides the dog, there was nothing left in the ship that had life ; nor any goods that I could see, but what were spoiled by the water. There were some casks of liquor, whether wine or brandy I knew not, which lay lower in the hold, and which, the water being ebbed out, I could see ; but they were too big to meddle with. I saw several chests, and I got two of them into the boat, without examining what was in them. Had the stern of the ship been fixed, and the forepart broken off, I am persuaded I might have made a good voyage ; for by what I found in these two chests, I had room to suppose the ship had a great deal of wealth on board.

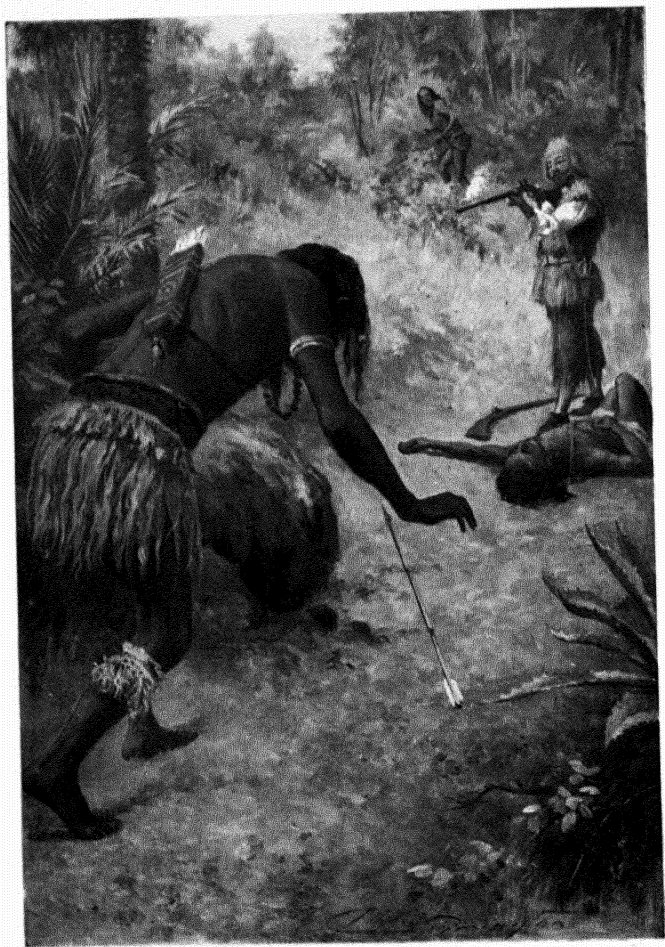
When I came to open the chests, I found in one a fine case of bottles filled with cordial waters, two pots of sweet-meats, some very good shirts, and about a dozen and a half

of linen white handkerchiefs and coloured neckcloths. Besides this, I found three great bags of pieces of eight, which held out about eleven hundred pieces in all ; and in one of them, wrapped up in a paper, six doubloons of gold, and some small bars or wedges of gold. I suppose they might all weigh near a pound. The other chest I found had some clothes in it. As to the money, I had no manner of occasion for it. I found in this seaman's chest about fifty pieces of eight in royals, but no gold.

Having brought all my things on shore, I made the best of my way to my old habitation, where I found everything safe and quiet. So I began to repose myself, live after my old fashion, and take care of my family affairs : and I lived in this condition near two years more.

It was one of the nights in the rainy season in March, the four and twentieth year of my first setting foot in this island of solitariness. I was lying in my bed, or hammock, awake. I ran over the whole history of my life in miniature, or by abridgment, as I may call it, to my coming to this island, and also of the part of my life since I came to this island. My head was for some time taken up in considering the nature of the savages, and how it came to pass in the world that the wise Governor of all things should give up any of His creatures to such inhumanity ; nay, to something so much below even brutality itself, as to devour its own kind. It occurred to me to inquire what part of the world these wretches lived in ? how far off the coast was from whence they came ? what they ventured over so far from home for ? what kind of boats they had ? and why I might not order myself and my business so, that I might be as able to go over thither as they were to come to me. I never so much as troubled myself to consider what I should do with myself when I came thither ; what would become of me, if I fell into the hands of the savages ; or how I should escape from them, if they attempted me.

About a year and half after I had entertained these



"Killed him at the first shot."

notions, and by long musing had, as it were, resolved them all into nothing, I was surprised, one morning early, with seeing no less than five canoes all on shore together on my side the island, and the people who belonged to them all landed, and out of my sight. Seeing so many, and knowing that they always came four, or six, or sometimes more, in a boat, I could not tell what to think of it, or how to take my measures to attack twenty or thirty men single-handed ; so I lay still in my castle, perplexed and discomforted. However, I put myself into all the same postures for an attack that I had formerly provided, and was ready for action if anything had presented. Having waited a good while, listening to hear if they made any noise, at length, being very impatient, I set my guns at the foot of my ladder, and clambered up to the top of the hill, standing so, however, that my head did not appear above the hill, so that they could not perceive me by any means. Here I observed, by the help of my perspective glass, that they were no less than thirty in number, that they had a fire kindled, that they had had meat dressed. How they had cooked it, that I knew not, or what it was ; but they were all dancing, in I know not how many barbarous gestures and figures, their own way, round the fire.

While I was thus looking on them, I perceived by my perspective two miserable wretches dragged from the boats, where, it seems, they were laid by, and were now brought out for the slaughter. I perceived one of them immediately fell, being knocked down, I suppose, with a club or wooden sword, and two or three others were at work immediately, cutting him open for their cookery, while the other victim was left standing by himself, till they should be ready for him. In that very moment this poor wretch seeing himself a little at liberty, Nature inspired him with hopes of life, and he started away from them, and ran with incredible swiftness along the sands directly towards me, I mean towards that part of the

coast where my habitation was. I was dreadfully frightened when I perceived him to run my way, and especially when, as I thought, I saw him pursued by the whole body. I kept my station, and my spirits began to recover when I found that there was not above three men that followed him ; and still more was I encouraged when I found that he outstripped them exceedingly in running, and gained ground of them ; so that if he could but hold it for half-an-hour, I saw easily he would fairly get away from them all. There was between them and my castle the creek, and this I saw plainly he must necessarily swim over, or the poor wretch would be taken there. But he made nothing of it, though the tide was then up ; but plunging in, swam through in about thirty strokes or thereabouts, landed, and ran on with exceeding strength and swiftness. When the three persons came to the creek, I found that two of them could swim, but the third could not, and that, standing on the other side, he looked at the other, but went no further, and soon after went softly back, which, as it happened, was very well for him in the main.

I observed that the two who swam were yet more than twice as long swimming over the creek as the fellow was that fled from them. It came now very warmly upon my thoughts, and indeed irresistibly, that now was my time to get me a servant, and perhaps a companion or assistant, and that I was called plainly by Providence to save this poor creature's life. I immediately ran down the ladders with all possible expedition, fetched my two guns, and getting up again, with the same haste, to the top of the hill, I crossed toward the sea, and having a very short cut, and all down hill, clapped myself in the way between the pursuers and the pursued, hallooing aloud to him that fled, who, looking back, was at first perhaps as much frightened at me as at them ; but I beckoned with my hand to him to come back ; and, in the meantime, I slowly advanced towards the two that followed ; then rushing at once upon the foremost, I

knocked him down with the stock of my piece. I was loth to fire, because I would not have the rest hear. Having knocked this fellow down, the other who pursued with him stopped, as if he had been frightened, and I advanced apace towards him ; but as I came nearer, I perceived presently he had a bow and arrow, and was fitting it to shoot at me ; so I was then necessitated to shoot at him first, which I did, and killed him at the first shot.

The poor savage who fled, but had stopped, though he saw both his enemies fallen and killed, as he thought, yet was so frightened with the fire and noise of my piece, that he stood stock-still, and neither came forward or went backward, though he seemed rather inclined to fly still, than to come on. I hallooed again to him, and made signs to come forward, which he easily understood, and came a little way, then stopped again, and then a little further, and stopped again ; and I could then perceive that he stood trembling, as if he also were about to be killed. I beckoned him again, and gave him all the signs of encouragement that I could think of ; and he came nearer and nearer, kneeling down every ten or twelve steps. I smiled at him, and looked pleasantly. At length he came close, kneeled down, kissed the ground, and taking me by the foot, set my foot upon his head. This, it seems, was in token of swearing to be my slave for ever. I took him up, and made much of him, and encouraged him all I could. Upon this he spoke some words to me ; and though I could not understand them, yet I thought they were pleasant to hear ; for they were the first sound of a man's voice that I had heard, my own excepted, for above twenty-five years. The savage who was knocked down recovered himself so far as to sit upon the ground, and I perceived that my savage began to be afraid ; but when I saw that, I presented my other piece at the man, as if I would shoot him. Upon this my savage, for so I call him now, made a motion to me to lend him my sword, which hung naked in a belt by my side ; so I did.

He no sooner had it but he runs to his enemy, and, at one blow, cut off his head cleverly; which I thought very strange for one who, I had reason to believe, never saw a sword in his life before, except their own wooden swords. When he had done this, he comes laughing to me in sign of triumph, and brought me the sword again, and with abundance of gestures, laid it down, with the head of the savage that he had killed, just before me. But that which astonished him most, was to know how I had killed the other Indian so far off; so pointing to him, he made signs to me to let him go to him; so I bade him go, as well as I could. When he came to him, he stood like one amazed, looking at him, turned him first on one side, then on t'other, looked at the wound the bullet had made, which, it seems, was just in his breast, where it had made a hole. He took up his bow and arrows, and came back; so I turned to go away, and beckoned to him to follow me, making signs to him that more might come after them. Upon this he signed to me that he should bury them with sand, that they might not be seen by the rest if they followed; and so I made signs again to him to do so. He fell to work, and in an instant he had scraped a hole in the sand with his hands big enough to bury the first in, and then dragged him into it, and covered him, and did so also by the other. I believe he had buried them both in a quarter of an hour. Then calling him away, I carried him, not to my castle, but quite away to my cave on the farther part of the island.

Here I gave him bread and a bunch of raisins to eat, and a draught of water, which I found he was indeed in great distress for, by his running; and having refreshed him, I made signs for him to go lie down and sleep, pointing to a place where I had laid a great parcel of rice-straw, and a blanket upon it; so the poor creature laid down and went to sleep. He was a comely, handsome fellow, perfectly well made, with straight strong limbs, not too large, tall,

and well-shaped, and, as I reckon, about twenty-six years of age. He had a very good countenance, not a fierce and surly aspect, but seemed to have something very manly in his face ; and yet he had all the sweetness and softness of an European in his countenance too, especially when he smiled. His hair was long and black, not curled like wool ; his forehead very high and large ; and a great vivacity in his eyes. The colour of his skin was very tawny ; and yet not of an ugly, yellow, nauseous tawny, but of a bright kind of a dun olive colour, that had in it something very agreeable, though not very easy to describe. His face was round and plump ; his nose small, not flat like the negroes ; a very good mouth, thin lips, and his fine teeth well set, and white as ivory.

In a little time I began to speak to him, and teach him to speak to me ; and, first, I made him know his name should be Friday, which was the day I saved his life. I likewise taught him to say master, and then let him know that was to be my name. I gave him some milk in an earthen pot, and let him see me drink it before him, and sop my bread in it ; and I gave him a cake of bread to do the like, which he quickly complied with, and made signs that it was very good for him. I kept there with him all that night ; but as soon as it was day, I beckoned to him to come with me, and let him know I would give him some clothes ; at which he seemed very glad, for he was stark naked. As we went by the place where he had buried the two men, he pointed exactly to the place, and showed me the marks that he had made to find them again, making signs to me that we should dig them up again, and eat them. At this I appeared very angry, expressed my abhorrence of it, made as if I would vomit at the thoughts of it, and beckoned with my hand to him to come away ; which he did immediately, with great submission. I then led him up to the top of the hill, to see if his enemies were gone ; and pulling out my glass, I looked, and saw plainly that they were gone, and

had left their two comrades behind them, without any search after them.

Having now more courage, and consequently more curiosity, I took my man Friday with me, giving him the sword in his hand, with the bow and arrows at his back, which I found he could use very dexterously, making him carry one gun for me, and I two for myself, and away we marched to the place where these creatures had been. When I came to the place, my very blood ran chill in my veins, and my heart sunk within me, at the horror of the spectacle. The place was covered with human bones, the ground dyed with their blood, great pieces of flesh left here and there, half-eaten, mangled, and scorched ; and, in short, all the tokens of the triumphant feast they had been making there, after a victory over their enemies. Friday, by his signs, made me understand that there had been a great battle between them and their next king, whose subjects it seems he had been one of, and that they had taken a great number of prisoners ; all which were carried to several places by those that had taken them in the fight, in order to feast upon them.

I caused Friday to gather all the skulls, bones, flesh, and whatever remained, and lay them together on a heap, and make a great fire upon it, and burn them all to ashes.

When we had done this we came back to our castle, and there I fell to work for my man Friday ; and, first of all, I gave him a pair of linen drawers. Then I made him a jerkin of goat's skin, as well as my skill would allow ; and I gave him a cap, which I had made of a hare-skin, very convenient and fashionable enough ; and thus he was clothed for the present tolerably well, and was mighty well pleased to see himself almost as well clothed as his master. It is true he went awkwardly in these things at first ; but a little easing them where he complained they hurt him, and using himself to them, at length he took to them very well.

The next day after I came home to my hutch with him, I made a little tent for him in the vacant place between my two fortifications ; and as there was a door or entrance there into my cave, I made a door to it of boards, and set it up in the passage, a little within the entrance ; and causing the door to open on the inside, I barred it up in the night, taking in my ladders too ; so that Friday could no way come at me in the inside of my innermost wall without making so much noise in getting over, that it must needs waken me ; for my first wall had now a complete roof over it of long poles, covering all my tent, and leaning up to the side of the hill, which was again laid cross with smaller sticks instead of laths, and then thatched over a great thickness with the rice-straw, which was strong, like reeds ; and at the hole or place which was left to go in or out by the ladder, I had placed a kind of trap-door, which, if it had been attempted on the outside, would not have opened at all, but would have fallen down, and made a great noise ; and as to weapons, I took them all into my side every night.

But I needed none of all this precaution ; for never man had a more faithful, loving, sincere servant than Friday was to me ; without passions, sullenness, or designs, perfectly obliged and engaged ; his very affections were tied to me, like those of a child to a father ; and I dare say he would have sacrificed his life for the saving mine, upon any occasion whatsoever.

He was the aptest scholar that ever was ; and particularly was so merry, so constantly diligent, and so pleased when he could but understand me, or make me understand him, that it was very pleasant to me to talk to him. And now my life began to be so easy, that I began to say to myself, that could I but have been safe from more savages, I cared not if I was never to remove from the place while I lived.

I believe, if I would have let him, Friday would have worshipped me and my gun. As for the gun itself, he would not so much as touch it for several days, but would

speaking to it, and talking to it, as if it had answered him, when he was by himself ; which, as I afterwards learned of him, was to desire it not to kill him.

I set him to work to beating some corn out, and sifting it in the manner I used to do, as I observed before ; and he soon understood how to do it as well as I, especially after he had seen what the meaning of it was, and that it was to make bread of ; for after that I let him see me make my bread, and bake it too ; and in a little time Friday was able to do all the work for me, as well as I could do it myself.

This was the pleasantest year of all the life I led in this place. Friday began to talk pretty well, and understand the names of almost everything I had occasion to call for, and of every place I had to send him to, and talked a great deal to me ; so that, in short, I began now to have some use for my tongue again, which, indeed, I had very little occasion for before, that is to say, about speech. Besides the pleasure of talking to him, I had a singular satisfaction in the fellow himself. His simple, unfeigned honesty appeared to me more and more every day, and I began really to love the creature ; and, on his side, I believe he loved me more than it was possible for him ever to love anything before.

I asked him how far it was from our island to the shore, and whether the canoes were not often lost. He told me there was no danger, no canoes ever lost ; but that, after a little way out to the sea, there was a current and a wind, always one way in the morning, the other in the afternoon. This I understood to be no more than the sets of the tide, as going out or coming in. He told me all he knew, with the greatest openness imaginable. I asked him the names of the several nations of his sort of people, but could get no other name than Caribs ; from whence I easily understood that these were the Caribbees. He told me that up a great way beyond the moon, that was, beyond the setting of the moon, which must be W. from their

country, there dwelt white-bearded men, like me, and pointed to my great whiskers, and that they had killed much mans, that was his word ; by all which I understood he meant the Spaniards, whose cruelties in America had been spread over the whole countries, and was remembered by all the nations from father to son. I inquired if he could tell me how I might come from this island and get among those white men. He told me, " Yes, yes, I might go in two canoe." He meant it must be in a large great boat, as big as two canoes.

After Friday and I became more intimately acquainted, and he could understand almost all I said to him, and speak fluently, though in broken English, to me, I acquainted him with my own story, or at least so much of it as related to my coming into the place ; how I had lived there, and how long. I let him into the mystery, for such it was to him, of gunpowder and bullet, and taught him how to shoot ; I gave him a knife, which he was wonderfully delighted with, and I made him a belt, with a frog hanging to it, such as in England we wear hangers in ; and in the frog, instead of a hanger, I gave him a hatchet, which was not only as good a weapon, in some cases, but much more useful upon other occasions. I described to him the country of Europe, and particularly England, which I came from ; how we lived, how we worshipped God, how we behaved to one another, and how we traded in ships to all parts of the world. I showed him the ruins of our boat, which we lost when we escaped, and which I could not stir with my whole strength then, but was now fallen almost all to pieces. Upon seeing this boat, Friday stood musing a great while, and said nothing. I asked him what it was he studied upon. At last says he, " Me see such boat like come to place at my nation." I did not understand him a good while ; but at last I understood by him that a boat such as that had been, came on shore upon the country where he lived ; that is, as he explained it, was driven thither by stress of

weather. Friday described the boat to me well enough ; but brought me better to understand him when he added with some warmth, " We save the white mans from drown." Then I presently asked him if there was any white mans, as he called them, in the boat. " Yes," he said, " the boat full of white mans." He told upon his fingers seventeen. I asked him then what became of them. He told me, " They live, they dwell at my nation."

This put new thoughts into my head ; for I presently imagined that these might be the men belonging to the ship that was cast away in sight of my island, and had saved themselves in their boat, and were landed upon that wild shore among the savages. He assured me they lived still there ; that they had been there about four years ; that the savages let them alone, and gave them victuals to live. I asked him how it came to pass they did not kill them, and eat them. He said, " No, they make brother with them ;" that is, as I understood him, a truce ; and then he added, " They no eat mans but when make the war fight."

It was after this some considerable time, that being on the top of the hill, at the east side of the island, Friday, the weather being very serene, looks very earnestly towards the mainland, and, in a kind of surprise, falls a-jumping and dancing, and calls out to me, for I was at some distance from him. I asked him what was the matter ? " O joy !" says he, " O glad ! there see my country, there my nation !" I observed an extraordinary sense of pleasure appeared in his face, and his eyes sparkled, and his countenance discovered a strange eagerness, as if he had a mind to be in his own country again ; and this observation of mine put a great many thoughts into me, which made me at first not so easy about my new man Friday as I was before ; and I made no doubt but that if Friday could get back to his own nation again, he would forget all his obligation to me, and would be forward enough to give his countrymen an

account of me, and come back perhaps with a hundred or two of them, and make a feast upon me, at which he might be as merry as he used to be with those of his enemies. But I wronged the poor honest creature very much, for which I was very sorry afterwards.

One day, walking up the same hill, but the weather being hazy at sea, so that we could not see the continent, I called to him, and said, "Friday, do not you wish yourself in your own country, your own nation?" "Yes," he said, "I be much O glad to be at my own nation." "What would you do there?" said I. "Would you turn wild again, eat men's flesh again, and be a savage as you were before?" He looked full of concern, and shaking his head said, "No, no; Friday tell them to live good; tell them to pray God; tell them to eat corn-bread, cattle-flesh, milk, no eat man again." "Why then," said I to him, "they will kill you." He looked grave at that, and then said, "No, they no kill me, they willing love learn." He meant by this they would be willing to learn. He added, they learned much of the bearded mans that come in the boat. Then I asked him if he would go back to them? He smiled at that, and told me he could not swim so far. I told him I would make a canoe for him. He told me he would go, if I would go with him. "I go!" says I; "why, they will eat me if I come there." "No, no," says he, "me make they no eat you.; me make they much love you." Then he told me, as well as he could, how kind they were to the seventeen white men, or bearded men, as he called them, who came on shore there in distress.

Upon the whole, I was by this time so fixed upon my design of going over with him to the continent, that I told him he should go home. He answered not one word, but looked very grave and sad. I asked him what was the matter with him? He asked me again thus, "Why you angry mad with Friday? what me done?" I asked him what he meant. I told him I was not angry with him at

all. "No angry! no angry!" says he, repeating the words several times. "Why send Friday home away to my nation?" "Why," says I, "Friday, did you not say you wished you were there?" "Yes, yes," says he, "wish be both there, no wish Friday there, no master there." In a word, he would not think of going there without me. "I go there, Friday?" says I; "what shall I do there?" He turned very quick upon me at this: "You do great deal much good," says he; "you teach wild mans to be good, tame mans; you tell them know God, pray God. You teachee me good, you teachee them good." "No, no, Friday," says I, "you shall go without me; leave me here to live by myself, as I did before." He looked confused again at that word, and running to one of the hatchets which he used to wear, he takes it up hastily, comes and gives it me. "What must I do with this?" says I to him. "You take kill Friday," said he. "What must I kill you for?" said I again. He returns very quick, "What you send Friday away for? Take kill Friday, no send Friday away." This he spoke so earnestly, that I saw tears stand in his eyes. In a word, I so plainly discovered the utmost affection in him to me, and a firm resolution in him, that I told him then, and often after, that I would never send him away from me if he was willing to stay with me.

I found all the foundation of his desire to go to his own country was laid in his ardent affection to the people, and his hopes of my doing them good. Without any more delay I went to work with Friday to find out a great tree proper to fell and make a large *periagua*, or canoe, to undertake the voyage. But the main thing was, to get one so near the water that we might launch it when it was made. At last Friday pitched upon a tree, for I found he knew much better than I what kind of wood was fittest for it. He was for burning the hollow of this tree out, to make it for a boat, but I showed him how rather to cut it out with tools;

which he did very handily ; and in about a month's hard labour we finished it, and made it very handsome ; especially when, with our axes, which I showed him how to handle, we cut and hewed the outside into the true shape of a boat. After this it cost us near a fortnight's time to get her along, as it were inch by inch, upon great rollers into the water ; but when she was in, she would have carried twenty men with great ease. When she was in the water, and though she was so big, it amazed me to see with what dexterity, and how swift my man Friday would manage her, turn her, and paddle her along. So I asked him if he would, and if we might venture over in her. " Yes," he said, " he venture over in her very well, though great blow wind." However, I had a farther design that he knew nothing of, and that was to make a mast and sail, and to fit her with an anchor and cable.

I was near two months performing this last work, viz., rigging and fitting my mast and sails ; for I finished them very complete, making a small stay, and a sail, or foresail, to it, to assist, if we would turn to windward ; and, which was more than all, I fixed a rudder to the stern of her to steer with. After all this was done too, I had my man Friday to teach as to what belonged to the navigation of my boat ; for though he knew very well how to paddle a canoe, he knew nothing what belonged to a sail and a rudder ; and was the most amazed when he saw me work the boat to and again in the sea by the rudder, and how the sail jibbed, and filled this way, or that way, as the course we sailed changed. With a little use I made all these things familiar to him, and he became an expert sailor, except that as to the compass I could make him understand very little.

The rainy season was, in the meantime, upon me, when I kept more within doors than at other times ; so I had stowed our new vessel as secure as we could, bringing her up into the creek ; and hauling her up to the shore at high-

water mark, I made my man Friday dig a little dock, just big enough to hold her, and just deep enough to give her water enough to float in ; and then, when the tide was out, we made a strong dam across the end of it, to keep the water out ; and so she lay dry, as to the tide, from the sea ; and to keep the rain off, we laid a great many boughs of trees, so thick, that she was as well thatched as a house ; and thus we waited for the month of November and December, in which I designed to make my adventure.

One morning I called to Friday, and bade him go to the seashore and see if he could find a turtle or tortoise, a thing which we generally got once a week, for the sake of the eggs as well as the flesh. Friday had not been long gone when he came running back, and flew over my outer wall, or fence, like one that felt not the ground, or the steps he set his feet on ; and before I had time to speak to him, he cries out to me, " O master ! O master ! O sorrow ! O bad ! " " What's the matter, Friday ? " says I. " O yonder, there, " says he, " one, two, three canoe ! one, two, three ! " " Well, Friday, " says I, " do not be frightened. " So I heartened him up as well as I could. However, I saw the poor fellow was most terribly scared ; for nothing ran in his head but that they were come to look for him, and would cut him in pieces, and eat him. I comforted him as well as I could, and told him I was in as much danger as he, and that they would eat me as well as him. " But, " says I, " Friday, we must resolve to fight them. Can you fight, Friday ? " " Me shoot, " says he ; " but there come many great number. " " No matter for that, " said I again ; " our guns will fright them that we do not kill. " So I asked him whether, if I resolved to defend him, he would defend me, and stand by me, and do just as I bid him. He said, " Me die when you bid die, master. " So I went and fetched a good dram of rum, and gave him. When he had drank it, I made him take the two fowling-pieces, which we always carried, and load them with large swan-shot,

as big as small pistol-bullets. Then I took four muskets, and loaded them with two slugs and five small bullets each ; and my two pistols I loaded with a brace of bullets each. I hung my great sword, as usual, naked by my side, and gave Friday his hatchet.

When I had thus prepared myself, I took my perspective glass, and went up to the side of the hill to see what I could discover ; and I found quickly that there were one and twenty savages, three prisoners, and three canoes, and that their whole business seemed to be the triumphant banquet upon these three human bodies. I observed also that they were landed, not where they had done when Friday made his escape, but nearer to my creek, where the shore was low, and where a thick wood came close almost down to the sea. This, with the abhorrence of the inhuman errand these wretches came about, filled me with such indignation, that I came down again to Friday, and told him I was resolved to go down to them, and kill them all, and asked him if he would stand by me. He was now gotten over his fright, and his spirits being a little raised with the dram I had given him, he was very cheerful, and told me, as before, he would die when I bid die.

In this fit of fury, I divided the arms which I had charged between us. I took a small bottle of rum in my pocket, and gave Friday a large bag with more powder and bullet ; and as to orders, I charged him to keep close behind me, and not to stir, or shoot, or do anything, till I bid him, and in the meantime not to speak a word. In this posture I fetched a compass to my right hand of near a mile, as well to get over the creek as to get into the wood, so that I might come within shot of them before I should be discovered. I entered the wood with all possible wariness and silence, Friday following close at my heels. I marched till I came to the skirt of the wood, on the side which was next to them ; only that one corner of the wood lay between me and them. Here I called softly to Friday,

and showing him a great tree, which was just at the corner of the wood, I bade him go to the tree and bring me word if he could see there plainly what they were doing. He did so, and came immediately back to me, and told me they might be plainly viewed there ; that they were all about their fire, eating the flesh of one of their prisoners, and that another lay bound upon the sand, a little from them, which, he said, they would kill next ; and, which fired all the very soul within me, he told me it was not one of their nation, but one of the bearded men, whom he had told me of, that came to their country in the boat. I was filled with horror at the very naming the white, bearded man ; and going to the tree, I saw plainly, by my glass, a white man, who lay upon the beach of the sea, with his hands and his feet tied with flags, or things like rushes, and that he was an European, and had clothes on.

There was another tree, and a little thicket beyond it, about fifty yards nearer to them than the place where I was, which, by going a little way about, I saw I might come at undiscovered, and that then I should be within half shot of them ; so going back about twenty paces, I got behind some bushes, which held all the way till I came to the other tree ; and then I came to a little rising ground, which gave me a full view of them, at the distance of about eighty yards. I had now not a moment to lose, for nineteen of the dreadful wretches sat upon the ground, all close huddled together, and had just sent the other two to butcher the poor Christian, and bring him, perhaps limb by limb, to their fire ; and they were stooped down to untie the bands at his feet. I turned to Friday : " Now, Friday," said I, " do as I bid thee ; do exactly as you see me do ; fail in nothing." So I set down one of the muskets and the fowling-piece upon the ground, and Friday did the like by his ; and with the other musket I took my aim at the savages, bidding him do the like. Then asking him if he was ready, he said, " Yes." " Then fire at them," said I ; and the same moment I fired also.

Friday took his aim so much better than I, that on the side that he shot he killed two of them, and wounded three more ; and on my side I killed one, and wounded two. They were, you may be sure, in a dreadful consternation ; and all of them who were not hurt jumped up upon their feet, but did not immediately know which way to run, or which way to look, for they knew not from whence their destruction came. Friday kept his eyes close upon me, that, as I had bid him, he might observe what I did ; so as soon as the first shot was made I threw down the piece, and took up the fowling-piece, and Friday did the like. He sees me cock and present ; he did the same again. "Are you ready, Friday ?" said I. "Yes," says he. "Let fly, then," says I, "in the name of God !" and with that I fired again among the amazed wretches, and so did Friday ; and as our pieces were now loaded with what I called swan-shot, or small pistol-bullets, we found only two drop, but so many were wounded, that they ran about yelling and screaming like mad creatures, all bloody, and miserably wounded most of them ; whereof three more fell quickly after, though not quite dead.

"Now, Friday," says I, laying down the discharged pieces, and taking up the musket which was yet loaded, "follow me," says I, which he did with a great deal of courage ; upon which I rushed out of the wood, and showed myself and Friday close at my foot. As soon as I perceived they saw me, I shouted as loud as I could, and bade Friday do so too ; and running as fast as I could, I made directly towards the poor victim, who was, as I said, lying upon the beach, or shore, between the place where they sat and the sea. The two butchers, who were just going to work with him, had left him at the surprise of our first fire, and fled in a terrible fright, and jumped into a canoe, and three more of the rest made the same way. I turned to Friday, and bid him step forwards and fire at them. He understood me immediately, and running

about forty yards, to be near them, he shot at them, and I thought he had killed them all, for I saw them all fall of a heap into the boat ; though I saw two of them up again quickly. He killed two of them, and wounded the third, so that he lay down in the bottom of the boat as if he had been dead.

While my man Friday fired at them, I pulled out my knife and cut the flags that bound the poor victim ; and loosing his hands and feet, I lifted him up, and asked him in the Portuguese tongue what he was. He answered in Latin, "*Christianus*," but was so weak and faint, that he could scarce stand or speak. I took my bottle out of my pocket and gave it him, making signs that he should drink, which he did ; and I gave him a piece of bread, which he ate. Then I asked him what countryman he was ; and he said, "*Espagniole* ;" and being a little recovered, let me know, by all the signs he could possibly make, how much he was in my debt for his deliverance. "*Seignior*," said I, with as much Spanish as I could make up, "*we will talk afterwards, but we must fight now. If you have any strength left, take this pistol and sword, and lay about you.*" He took them very thankfully, and no sooner had he the arms in his hands but, as if they had put new vigour into him, he flew upon his murderers like a fury, and had cut two of them in pieces in an instant ; for the truth is, as the whole was a surprise to them, so the poor creatures were so much frightened with the noise of our pieces, that they fell down for mere amazement and fear, and had no more power to attempt their own escape, than their flesh had to resist our shot ; and that was the case of those five that Friday shot at in the boat ; for as three of them fell with the hurt they received, so the other two fell with the fright. I kept my piece in my hand still without firing, being willing to keep my charge ready, because I had given the Spaniard my pistol and sword. So I called to Friday, and bade him run up to the tree from whence we first fired,

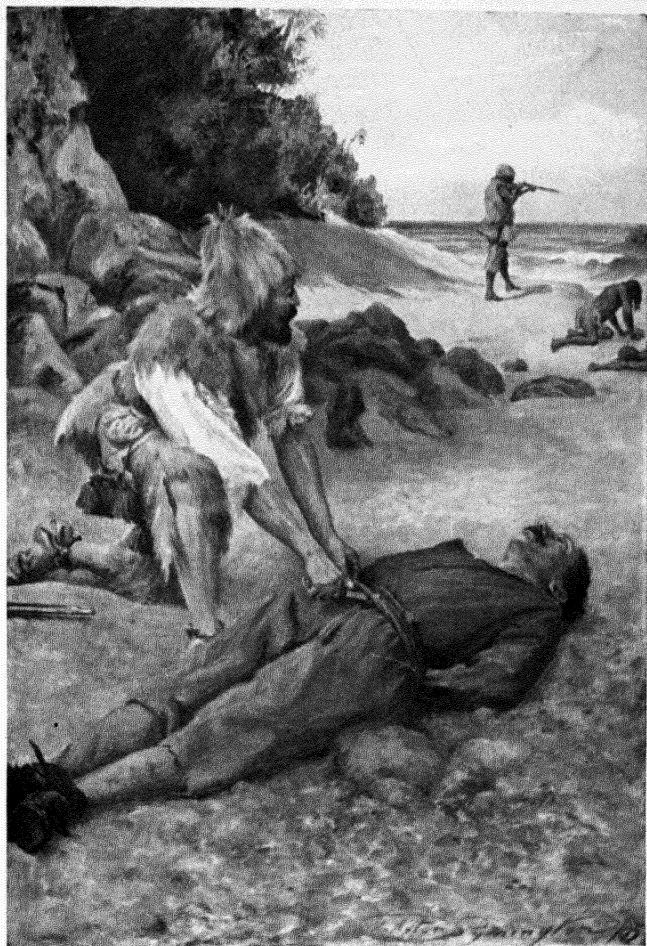
and fetch the arms which lay there that had been discharged ; and then giving him my musket, I sat down myself to load all the rest again, and bade them come to me when they wanted. While I was loading these pieces, there happened a fierce engagement between the Spaniard and one of the savages, who made at him with one of their great wooden swords, the same weapon that was to have killed him before if I had not prevented it. The Spaniard, who was as bold and as brave as could be imagined, though weak, had fought this Indian a good while, and had cut him two great wounds on his head ; but the savage being a stout, lusty fellow, closing in with him, had thrown him down, being faint, and was wringing my sword out of his hand, when the Spaniard, though undermost, wisely quitting the sword, drew the pistol from his girdle, shot the savage through the body, and killed him upon the spot, before I, who was running to help him, could come near him.

Friday being now left to his liberty, pursued the flying wretches with no weapon in his hand but his hatchet ; and with that he despatched those three who, as I said before, were wounded at first, and fallen, and all the rest he could come up with ; and the Spaniard coming to me for a gun, I gave him one of the fowling-pieces, with which he pursued two of the savages, and wounded them both ; but as he was not able to run, they both got from him into the wood, where Friday pursued them, and killed one of them ; but the other was too nimble for him, and though he was wounded, yet had plunged himself into the sea and swam with all his might off to those two who were left in the canoe ; which three in the canoe, with one wounded, who we know not whether he died or no, were all that escaped our hands of one and twenty. The account of the rest is as follows : 3 killed at our first shot from the tree ; 2 killed at the next shot ; 2 killed by Friday in the boat ; 2 killed by ditto, of those at first wounded ; 1 killed

by ditto in the wood ; 3 killed by the Spaniard ; 4 killed, being found dropped here and there of their wounds, or killed by Friday in his chase of them ; 4 escaped in the boat, whereof one wounded, if not dead ; 21 in all.

Those that were in the canoe worked hard to get out of gun-shot ; and though Friday made two or three shots at them, I did not find that he hit any of them. Friday would fain have had me take one of their canoes, and pursued them ; and, indeed, I was very anxious about their escape, lest carrying the news home to their people they should come back perhaps with two or three hundred of their canoes, and devour us by mere multitude. So I consented to pursue them by sea, and running to one of their canoes I jumped in, and bade Friday follow me. But when I was in the canoe, I was surprised to find another poor creature lie there alive, bound hand and foot, as the Spaniard was, for the slaughter, and almost dead with fear, not knowing what the matter was ; for he had not been able to look up over the side of the boat, he was tied so hard, neck and heels, and had been tied so long, that he had really but little life in him.

I immediately cut the twisted flags or rushes, which they had bound him with, and would have helped him up ; but he could not stand or speak, but groaned most piteously, believing, it seems, still that he was only unbound in order to be killed. When Friday came to him, I bade him speak to him, and tell him of his deliverance ; and pulling out my bottle made him give the poor wretch a dram. But when Friday came to hear him speak, and look in his face, it would have moved any one to tears to have seen how Friday kissed him, embraced him, hugged him, cried, laughed, hallooed, jumped about, danced, sung ; then cried again, wrung his hands, beat his own face and head, and then sung and jumped about again, like a distracted creature. It was a good while before I could make him speak to me, or tell me what was the matter ; but when he



"I cut the flags that bound the poor victim."

came a little to himself, he told me that it was his father.

It is not easy for me to express how it moved me to see what ecstasy and filial affection had worked in this poor savage at the sight of his father, and of his being delivered from death. He went in and out of the boat a great many times. When he went in to him, he would sit down, open his breast, and hold his father's head close to his bosom, half-an-hour together, to nourish it ; then he took his arms and ankles, which were numbed and stiff with the binding, and chafed and rubbed them with his hands ; and I, perceiving what the case was, gave him some rum out of my bottle to rub them with, which did them a great deal of good. This action put an end to our pursuit of the canoe with the other savages, who were now gotten almost out of sight ; and it was happy for us that we did not, for it blew so hard within two hours after, and before they could be gotten a quarter of their way, and continued blowing so hard all night, and that from the north-west, which was against them, that I could not suppose their boat could live, or that they ever reached to their own coast.

But to return to Friday. He was so busy about his father, that I could not find in my heart to take him off for some time ; but after I thought he could leave him a little, I called him to me, and he came jumping and laughing, and pleased to the highest extreme. Then I asked him if he had given his father any bread. He shook his head, and said, "None ; ugly dog eat all up self." So I gave him a cake of bread out of a pouch I carried on purpose. I also gave him a dram for himself, but he would not taste it, but carried it to his father. I had in my pocket also two or three bunches of my raisins, so I gave him a handful of them for his father. He had no sooner given his father these raisins, but I saw him come out of the boat and run away, as if he had been bewitched, he ran at such a rate ; for he was the swiftest fellow of his foot that ever I saw.



THIS WATER REVIVED HIS FATHER

He was out of sight, as it were, in an instant ; and though I called, and hallooed too, after him, it was all one, away he went ; and in a quarter of an hour I saw him come back again, though not so fast as he went ; and as he came nearer I found he had something in his hand. He had been quite home for an earthen jug, or pot, to bring his father some fresh water, and had got two more cakes or loaves of bread. The bread he gave me, but the water he carried to his father. I was very thirsty too and took a little sup of it. This water revived his father more than all the rum or spirits I had given him, for he was just fainting with thirst. When his father had drank, I called to him to know if there was any water left. He said " Yes ; " and I bade him give it to the poor Spaniard, who was in as much want of it as his father ; and I sent one of the cakes, that Friday brought, to the Spaniard too, who was reposing himself

upon a green place under the shade of a tree ; and whose limbs were also very stiff, and very much swelled with the rude bandage he had been tied with. When I saw that upon Friday's coming to him with the water he sat up and drank, and took the bread, and began to eat, I went to him, and gave him a handful of raisins. He looked up in my face with all the tokens of gratitude and thankfulness that could appear in any countenance ; but was so weak, notwithstanding he had so exerted himself in the fight, that he could not stand up upon his feet. His ankles were swelled and painful to him ; so I bade him sit still, and caused Friday to rub his ankles, and bathe them with rum. I then spoke to the Spaniard to let Friday help him up, if he could, and lead him to the boat, and then he should carry him to our dwelling, where I would take care of him. But Friday, a lusty strong fellow, took the Spaniard quite up upon his back, and carried him away to the boat, lifted him in, and set him close to his father ; launched the boat off, and paddled it along the shore faster than I could walk. So he brought them both safe into our creek, and leaving them in the boat, runs away to fetch the other canoe. As he passed me, I spoke to him, and asked him whither he went. He told me, " Go fetch more boat." So away he went like the wind, for sure never man or horse ran like him ; and he had the other canoe in the creek almost as soon as I got to it by land ; so he wafted me over, and then went to help our new guests out of the boat ; but they were neither of them able to walk, so that poor Friday knew not what to do.

To remedy this I made a kind of hand-barrow to lay them on, and Friday and I carried them up both together upon it between us. But when we got them to the outside of our wall, or fortification, it was impossible to get them over. So Friday and I, in about two hours' time, made a very handsome tent, covered with old sails, and above that with boughs of trees, being in the space without our

outward fence, and between that and the grove of young wood which I had planted ; and here we made them two beds of such things as I had, viz., of good rice-straw, with blankets laid upon it to lie on, and another to cover them, on each bed.

My island was now peopled, and I thought myself very rich in subjects ; and it was a merry reflection, which I frequently made, how like a king I looked. I set Friday to work to boiling and stewing, and made them a very good dish of flesh and broth, and as I cooked it without doors, for I made no fire within my inner wall, so I sat down and ate my own dinner also with them, and as well as I could cheered them, and encouraged them ; Friday being my interpreter, especially to his father, and, indeed, to the Spaniard too ; for the Spaniard spoke the language of the savages pretty well.

The next day I ordered Friday to go and bury the dead bodies of the savages, which lay open to the sun ; and also the horrid remains of their barbarous feast.

I then began to enter into a little conversation with my two new subjects ; and first, I set Friday to inquire of his father what he thought of the escape of the savages in that canoe. His first opinion was, that the savages in the boat never could live out the storm which blew that night they went off, but must, of necessity be drowned, or driven south to those other shores, where they were as sure to be devoured as they were to be drowned if they were cast away. But as to what they would do if they came safe on shore, he said he knew not ; but it was his opinion that they were so dreadfully frightened with the manner of their being attacked, the noise, and the fire, that he believed they would tell their people they were all killed by thunder and lightning, not by the hand of man ; and that the two which appeared, viz., Friday and me, were two heavenly spirits, or furies, come down to destroy them, and not men with weapons. This, he said, he knew, because he

heard them all cry out so in their language to one another ; for it was impossible to them to conceive that a man could dart fire, and speak thunder, and kill at a distance without lifting up the hand, as was done now. And this old savage was in the right ; for, as I understood since by other hands, the savages never attempted to go over to the island afterwards. They were so terrified with the accounts given by those four men (for, it seems, they did escape the sea), that they believed whoever went to that enchanted island would be destroyed with fire from the gods.

In a little time, no more canoes appearing, the fear of their coming wore off, and I began to take my former thoughts of a voyage to the main into consideration ; being likewise assured, by Friday's father, that I might depend upon good usage from their nation, on his account, if I would go. But my thoughts were a little suspended when I had a serious discourse with the Spaniard, and when I understood that there were sixteen more of his countrymen and Portuguese who, having been cast away, and made their escape to that side, lived there at peace with the savages, but were very sore put to it for necessaries, and indeed for life. I asked him all the particulars of their voyage, and found they were a Spanish ship bound from the Rio de la Plata to the Havana ; that they had five Portuguese seamen on board, whom they took out of another wreck ; that five of their own men were drowned when the first ship was lost, and that these escaped and arrived, almost starved, on the cannibal coast, where they expected to have been devoured every moment. I asked him what he thought would become of them there, and if they had formed no design of making any escape ? He said they had many consultations about it ; but that having neither vessel, or tools to build one, or provisions of any kind, their councils always ended in tears and despair. I asked him how he thought they would receive a proposal from me, which might tend towards an escape ; and

whether, if they were all here, it might not be done ? I told him with freedom, I feared mostly their treachery and ill usage of me if I put my life in their hands.

He answered, with a great deal of candour and ingenuity, that their condition was so miserable, and they were so sensible of it, that he believed they would abhor the thought of using any man unkindly that should contribute to their deliverance ; and that, if I pleased, he would go to them with the old man, and discourse with them about it, and bring me their answer ; that he would make conditions with them upon their solemn oath that they should be absolutely under my leading, as their commander and captain ; and that they should swear to be true to me, and to go to such Christian country as that I should agree to, and no other, and to be directed wholly and absolutely by my orders ; and that he would bring a contract from them, under their hands, for that purpose. Then he told me he would first swear to me himself, that he would never stir from me as long as he lived till I gave him orders ; and that he would take my side to the last drop of his blood, if there should happen the least breach of faith among his countrymen. Upon these assurances, I resolved to send the old savage and this Spaniard over to them to treat. But when we had gotten all things in a readiness to go, the Spaniard himself started an objection, which had so much prudence in it on one hand, and so much sincerity on the other hand, that I could not but be very well satisfied in it, and by his advice put off the deliverance of his comrades for at least half a year. The case was thus.

He had been with us now about a month, during which time I had let him see in what manner I had provided for my support ; and he saw evidently what stock of corn and rice I had made up ; which was not sufficient, at least without good husbandry, for my family, now it was increased to number four ; but much less would it be sufficient if his countrymen should come over ; and least

of all would it be sufficient to victual our vessel, if we should build one, for a voyage to any of the Christian colonies of America. So he told me he thought it would be more advisable to let him and the two others cultivate some more land, as much as I could spare seed to sow ; and that we should wait another harvest, that we might have a supply of corn for his countrymen when they should come. I could not but be very well pleased with his proposal, as well as I was satisfied with his fidelity. So we fell to digging all four of us, and in about a month's time we sowed twenty-two bushels of barley and sixteen jars of rice ; which was, in short, all the seed we had to spare.

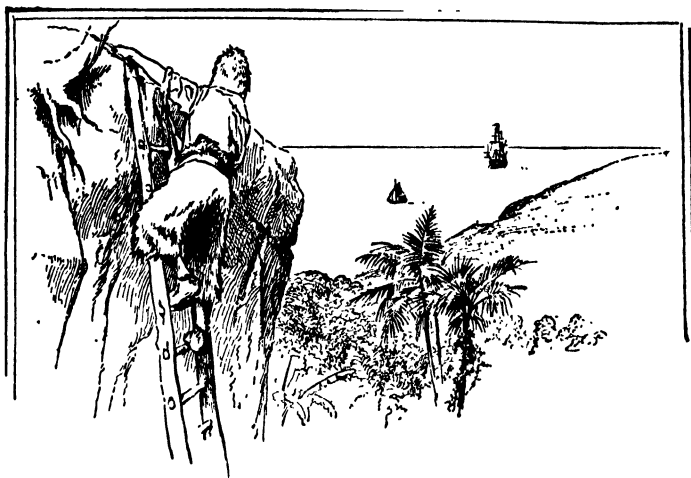
Having now society enough, and our number being sufficient to put us out of fear of the savages, if they had come, unless their number had been very great, we went freely all over the island ; and I marked out several trees which I thought fit for our work, and I set Friday and his father to cutting them down ; and then I caused the Spaniard to oversee and direct their work. I showed them with what indefatigable pains I had hewed a large tree into single planks, and I caused them to do the like, till they had made about a dozen large planks of good oak, near two feet broad, thirty-five feet long, and from two inches to four inches thick.

At the same time, I contrived to increase my little flock of tame goats as much as I could ; and to this purpose I made Friday and the Spaniard go out one day, and myself with Friday the next day, and by this means we got above twenty young kids to breed up with the rest ; for whenever we shot the dam, we saved the kids, and added them to our flock. But above all, I caused a prodigious quantity of grapes to be hung up in the sun. It was now harvest, and our crop in good order. From our twenty-two bushels of barley we brought in and thrashed out above two hundred and twenty bushels, and the like in

proportion of the rice ; which was store enough for our food to the next harvest, though all the sixteen Spaniards had been on shore with me ; or if we had been ready for a voyage, it would very plentifully have victualled our ship to have carried as to any part of America. When we had thus housed and secured our magazine of corn, we fell to work to make more wicker-work, viz., great baskets, in which we kept it ; and the Spaniard was very handy and dexterous at this part. And now having a full supply of food for all the guests I expected, I gave the Spaniard leave to go over to the main.

The Spaniard and the old savage went away in one of the canoes which they might be said to come in, or rather were brought in, when they came as prisoners to be devoured by the savages. I gave each of them a musket, with a fire-lock on it, and about eight charges of powder and ball, charging them to be very good husbands of both, and not to use either of them but upon urgent occasion. I gave them provisions sufficient for themselves for many days, and sufficient for all their countrymen for about eight days' time ; and wishing them a good voyage, I saw them go, agreeing with them about a signal they should hang out at their return, by which I should know them again, when they came back, at a distance before they came on shore.

It was no less than eight days I had waited for them, when a strange and unforeseen accident intervened. I was fast asleep in my hutch one morning, when my man Friday came running in to me, and called aloud, " Master, master, they are come, they are come ! " I jumped up, and, regardless of danger, I went out as soon as I could get my clothes on, through my little grove, which, by the way, was by this time grown to be a very thick wood ; I say, regardless of danger, I went without my arms, which was not my custom to do ; but I was surprised when, turning my eyes to the sea, I presently saw a boat at about a league



DISCOVERED A SHIP

and half's distance standing in for the shore, with a shoulder-of-mutton sail, and the wind blowing pretty fair to bring them in ; also I observed presently that they did not come from that side which the shore lay on, but from the southernmost end of the island. Upon this I called Friday in, and bid him lie close, for these were not the people we looked for, and that we might not know yet whether they were friends or enemies. In the next place, I went in to fetch my perspective glass, to see what I could make of them ; and climbed up to the top of the hill. I had scarce set my foot on the hill, when my eye discovered a ship lying at anchor at about two leagues and an half's distance from me, south-south-east, but not above a league and an half from the shore. By my observation, it appeared plainly to be an English ship, and the boat appeared to be an English longboat. The joy of seeing a ship, and one who I had reason to believe was manned by

my own countrymen, and consequently friends, was such as I cannot describe. But yet I had some secret doubts hung about me, bidding me keep upon my guard. In the first place, it occurred to me to consider what business an English ship could have in that part of the world, since I knew there had been no storms to drive them in there as in distress; and that if they were English really, it was most probable that they were here upon no good design; and that I had better continue as I was, than fall into the hands of thieves and murderers.

I had not kept myself long in this posture, but I saw the boat draw near the shore, as if they looked for a creek to thrust in at. However, as they did not come quite far enough, they did not see the little inlet where I formerly landed my rafts; but run their boat on shore upon the beach, at about half a mile from me, which was very happy for me; for otherwise they would have landed just at my door, and would soon have beaten me out of my castle, and perhaps have plundered me of all I had. When they were on shore, I was fully satisfied that they were Englishmen, at least most of them. There were in all eleven men, whereof three of them I found were unarmed and, as I thought, bound; and when the first four or five of them were jumped on shore, they took those three out of the boat, as prisoners. One of the three I could perceive using the most passionate gestures of entreaty, affliction, and despair, even to a kind of extravagance.

All this while I had no thought of what the matter really was, but stood trembling with the horror of the sight, expecting every moment when the three prisoners should be killed; nay, once I saw one of the villains lift up his arm with a great cutlass to strike one of the poor men; and I expected to see him fall every moment, at which all the blood in my body seemed to run chill in my veins. I wished heartily now for my Spaniard, and the savage that was gone with him; or that I had any way to have come

undiscovered within shot of them, that I might have rescued the three men. After I had observed the outrageous usage of the three men by the insolent seamen, I observed the fellows run scattering about the land, as if they wanted to see the country. I observed that the three other men had liberty to go also where they pleased ; but they sat down all three upon the ground, very pensive, and looked like men in despair.

It was just at the top of high-water when these people came on shore ; and while partly they stood parleying with the prisoners they brought, and partly while they rambled about to see what kind of a place they were in, they had carelessly stayed till the tide was spent, and the water was ebbd considerably away, leaving their boat aground. They had left two men in the boat, who, as I found afterwards, having drank a little too much brandy, fell asleep. However, one of them waking sooner than the other, and finding the boat too fast aground for him to stir it, hallooed for the rest, who were straggling about, upon which they all soon came to the boat ; but it was past all their strength to launch her, the boat being very heavy, and the shore on that side being a soft oozy sand, almost like a quicksand. In this condition, they gave it over, and away they strolled about the country again ; and I heard one of them say aloud to another, calling them off from the boat, “ Why, let her alone, Jack, can’t ye ? she will float next tide ; ” by which I was fully confirmed in the main inquiry of what countrymen they were. All this while I kept myself very close, not once daring to stir out of my castle, any farther than to my place of observation near the top of the hill ; and very glad I was to think how well it was fortified. I knew it was no less than ten hours before the boat could be on float again, and by that time it would be dark, and I might be at more liberty to see their motions, and to hear their discourse.

In the meantime, I fitted myself up for a battle, as before,

though with more caution, knowing I had to do with another kind of enemy than I had at first. I ordered Friday also, whom I had made an excellent marksman with his gun, to load himself with arms. I took myself two fowling-pieces, and I gave him three muskets. My figure, indeed, was very fierce. I had my formidable goat's-skin coat on, with the great cap I have mentioned, a naked sword by my side, two pistols in my belt, and a gun upon each shoulder. It was my design not to have made any attempt till it was dark ; but about two o'clock, being the heat of the day, I found that they were all gone straggling into the woods, and, as I thought, were laid down to sleep. The three poor distressed men, too anxious for their condition to get any sleep, were, however, set down under the shelter of a great tree, at about a quarter of a mile from me, and, as I thought, out of sight of any of the rest. Upon this I resolved to discover myself to them, and learn something of their condition. Immediately I marched in the figure as above, my man Friday at a good distance behind me, as formidable for his arms as I, but not making quite so staring a spectre-like figure as I did. I came as near them undiscovered as I could, and then, before any of them saw me, I called to them in Spanish, "What are ye, gentlemen?" They started up at the noise, but were ten times more confounded when they saw me, and the uncouth figure that I made. They made no answer at all, but I thought I perceived them just going to fly from me, when I spoke to them in English. "Gentlemen," said I, "do not be surprised at me; perhaps you may have a friend near you, when you did not expect it." "He must be sent directly from heaven then," said one of them very gravely to me, and pulling off his hat at the same time to me, "for our condition is past the help of man." "All help is from heaven, sir," said I. "But can you put a stranger in the way how to help you, for you seem to me to be in some great distress? I saw you when you landed ;

and when you seemed to make applications to the brutes that came with you, I saw one of them lift up his sword to kill you." The poor man, with tears running down his face, and trembling, looking like one astonished, returned, "Am I talking to God, or man? Is it a real man, or an angel?" "Be in no fear about that, sir," said I. "If God had sent an angel to relieve you, he would have come better clothed, and armed after another manner than you see me in. Pray lay aside your fears; I am a man, an Englishman, and disposed to assist you, you see. I have one servant only; we have arms and ammunition; tell us freely, can we serve you? What is your case?" "Our case," said he, "sir, is too long to tell you while our murderers are so near; but in short, sir, I was commander of that ship; my men have mutinied against me, they have been hardly prevailed on not to murder me; and at last have set me on shore with these two men with me, one my mate, the other a passenger, where we expected to perish, believing the place to be uninhabited, and know not yet what to think of it." "Where are those brutes, your enemies?" said I. "Do you know where they are gone?" "There they lie, sir," said he, pointing to a thicket of trees. "My heart trembles for fear they have seen us, and heard you speak. If they have, they will certainly murder us all." "Have they any firearms?" said I. He answered they had only two pieces, and one which they left in the boat. "Well then," said I, "leave the rest to me, I see they are all asleep; it is an easy thing to kill them all; but shall we rather take them prisoners?" He told me there were two desperate villains among them that it was scarce safe to show any mercy to; but if they were secured, he believed all the rest would return to their duty. I asked him which they were. He told me he could not at that distance describe them, but he would obey my orders in anything I would direct. "Well," says I, "let us retreat out of their view or hearing, lest

they awake, and we will resolve further." So they willingly went back with me, till the woods covered us from them.

"Look you, sir," said I, "if I venture upon your deliverance, are you willing to make two conditions with me?" He anticipated my proposals, by telling me that both he and the ship, if recovered, should be wholly directed and commanded by me in everything; and if the ship was not recovered, he would live and die with me in what part of the world soever I would send him; and the two other men said the same. "Well," says I, "my conditions are but two. 1. That while you stay on this island with me, you will not pretend to any authority here; and if I put arms into your hands, you will, upon all occasions, give them up to me, and do no prejudice to me or mine upon this island; and in the meantime, be governed by my orders. 2. That if the ship is, or may be, recovered, you will carry me and my man to England, passage free." He gave me all the assurances that the invention and faith of man could devise that he would comply with these most reasonable demands; and, besides, would owe his life to me, and acknowledge it upon all occasions, as long as he lived. "Well then," said I, "here are three muskets for you, with powder and ball; tell me next what you think is proper to be done." He showed all the testimony of his gratitude that he was able, but offered to be wholly guided by me. I told him the best method I could think of was to fire upon them at once, as they lay; and if any was not killed at the first volley, and offered to submit, we might save them, and so put it wholly upon God's providence to direct the shot. He said very modestly that he was loth to kill them, if he could help it; but that those two were incorrigible villains, and had been the authors of all the mutiny in the ship, and if they escaped, we should be undone still; for they would go on board and bring the whole ship's company, and destroy us all. "Well then,"

says I, "necessity legitimates my advice, for it is the only way to save our lives." However, seeing him still cautious of shedding blood, I told him they should go themselves, and manage as they found convenient.

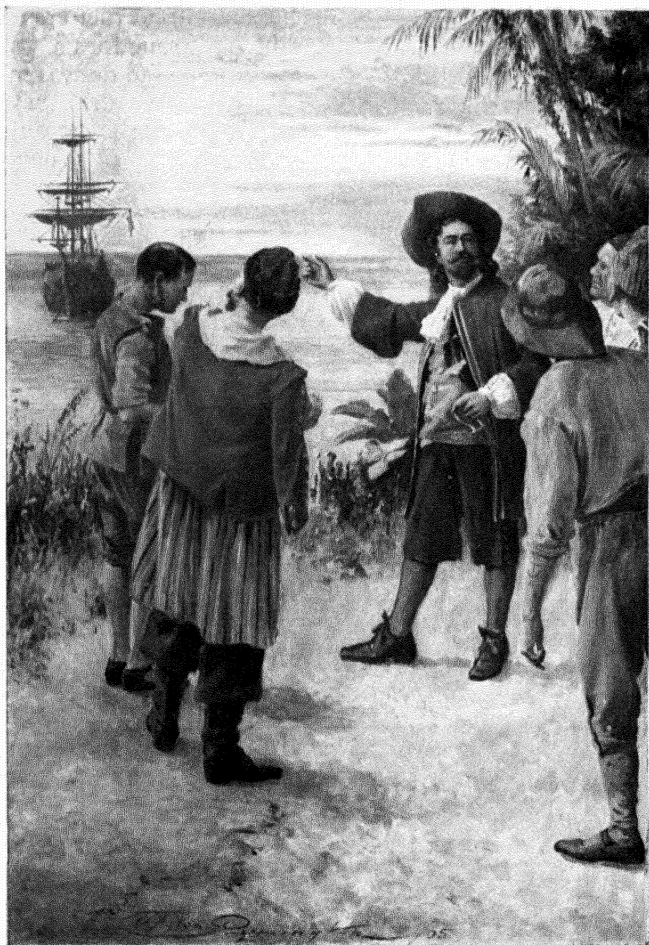
In the middle of this discourse we heard some of them awake, and soon after we saw two of them on their feet. I asked him if either of them were of the men who he had said were the heads of the mutiny. He said "No." "Well then," said I, "you may let them escape; and Providence seems to have wakened them on purpose to save themselves. Now," says I, "if the rest escape you, it is your fault."

Animated with this, he took the musket I had given him in his hand, and a pistol in his belt, and his two comrades with him, with each man a piece in his hand. The two men who were with him going first made some noise, at which one of the seamen who was awake turned about, and seeing them coming cried out to the rest; but it was too late then, for the moment he cried out they fired, the captain wisely reserving his own piece. They had so well aimed their shot at the men they knew, that one of them was killed on the spot, and the other very much wounded; but not being dead, he started up upon his feet, and called eagerly for help to the other. But the captain stepping to him, told him 'twas too late to cry for help, he should call upon God to forgive his villainy; and with that word knocked him down with the stock of his musket, so that he never spoke more. There were three more in the company, and one of them was also slightly wounded. By this time I was come; and when they saw their danger, and that it was in vain to resist, they begged for mercy. The captain told them he would spare their lives if they would give him any assurance of their abhorrence of the treachery they had been guilty of, and would swear to be faithful to him in recovering the ship, and afterwards in carrying her back to Jamaica, from whence they came. They gave

him all the protestations of their sincerity that could be desired, and he was willing to believe them, and spare their lives, which I was not against, only I obliged him to keep them bound hand and foot while they were upon the island.

While this was doing, I sent Friday with the captain's mate to the boat, with orders to secure her, and bring away the oars and sail ; and by and by three straggling men, that were parted from the rest, came back upon hearing the guns fired ; and seeing their captain, who before was their prisoner, now their conqueror, they submitted to be bound also, and so our victory was complete.

It now remained that the captain and I should inquire into one another's circumstances. I began first, and told him my whole history, which he heard with amazement. Above all, the captain admired my fortification, and how perfectly I had concealed my retreat with a grove of trees. I told him this was my castle and my residence, but that I had a seat in the country, as most princes have, whither I could retreat upon occasion, and I would show him that too another time. He told me he was perfectly at a loss what measures to take, for that there were still six and twenty hands on board, who having entered into a cursed conspiracy, by which they had all forfeited their lives to the law, would be hardened in it now by desperation, and would carry it on, knowing that if they were reduced, they should be brought to the gallows as soon as they came to England, or to any of the English colonies ; and that therefore there would be no attacking them with so small a number as we were. I mused upon what he said, and found it was a very rational conclusion, and that therefore something was to be resolved on very speedily, as well to draw the men on board into some snare for their surprise, as to prevent their landing upon us, and destroying us. Upon this it presently occurred to me that in a little while the ship's crew, wondering what was become of their comrades, and of the boat, would certainly come on shore



"I showed them the new captain hanging at the yard-arm."

in their other boat to seek for them ; and that then, perhaps, they might come armed, and be too strong for us.

Upon this, I told him the first thing we had to do was to stave the boat, which lay upon the beach, so that they might not carry her off ; and taking everything out of her, leave her so far useless as not to be fit to swim. Accordingly we took the arms which were left on board out of her, and whatever else we found there. We knocked a great hole in her bottom, that if they had come strong enough to master us, yet they could not carry off the boat.

While we had by main strength heaved the boat up upon the beach so high that the tide would not fleet her off at high-water mark, and were sat down musing what we should do, we heard the ship fire a gun, and saw her make a waft with her ancient as a signal for the boat to come on board. But no boat stirred ; and they fired several times, making other signals for the boat. At last we saw them, by the help of my glasses, hoist another boat out, and row towards the shore ; and we found, as they approached, that there was no less than ten men in her, and that they had firearms with them. The captain knew the persons and characters of all the men in the boat, of whom he said that there were three very honest fellows, who, he was sure, were led into this conspiracy by the rest ; but that as for the boatswain, and all the rest, they were as outrageous as any of the ship's crew, and were no doubt made desperate in their new enterprise ; and terribly apprehensive he was that they would be too powerful for us. I smiled at him, and told him that men in our circumstances were past the operation of fear.

We had, upon the first appearance of the boat's coming from the ship, considered of separating our prisoners, and had, indeed, secured them effectually. Two of them, of whom the captain was less assured than ordinary, I sent with Friday and one of the three delivered men to my cave, where they were remote enough, and out of danger of being heard or discovered, or of finding their way out of the woods

if they could have delivered themselves. Here they left them bound, but gave them provisions, and promised them, if they continued there quietly, to give them their liberty in a day or two ; but that if they attempted their escape, they should be put to death without mercy. They promised faithfully to bear their confinement with patience, and were very thankful that they had such good usage as to have provisions and a light left them ; for Friday gave them candles for their comfort ; and they did not know but that he stood sentinel over them at the entrance. The other prisoners had better usage. Two of them were kept pinioned, indeed, because the captain was not free to trust them ; but the other two were taken into my service, upon their captain's recommendation, and upon their solemnly engaging to live and die with us ; so with them and the three honest men we were seven men well armed ; and I made no doubt we should be able to deal well enough with the ten that were a-coming, considering that the captain had said there were three or four honest men among them also.

As soon as they got to the place where their other boat lay, they ran their boat into the beach, and came all on shore, hauling the boat up after them, which I was glad to see ; for I was afraid they would rather have left the boat at an anchor some distance from the shore, with some hands in her to guard her, and so we should not be able to seize the boat. Being on shore, the first thing they did they ran all to their other boat ; and it was easy to see that they were under a great surprise to find her stripped, as above, of all that was in her, and a great hole in her bottom. After they had mused a while upon this, they set up two or three great shouts, hallooing with all their might, to try if they could make their companions hear ; but all was to no purpose. Then they came all close in a ring, and fired a volley of their small arms, which, indeed, we heard, and the echoes made the woods ring. But it was all one ;

those in the cave we were sure could not hear, and those in our keeping, though they heard it well enough, yet durst give no answer to them. They were so astonished at the surprise of this, that, as they told us afterwards, they resolved to go all on board again, to their ship, and let them know there that the men were all murdered, and the longboat staved. Accordingly, they immediately launched their boat again, and gat all of them on board.

They had not been long put off with the boat but we perceived them all coming on shore again ; but with this new measure in their conduct, which it seems they consulted together upon, viz., to leave three men in the boat, and the rest to go on shore, and go up into the country to look for their fellows. This was a great disappointment to us, for now we were at a loss what to do ; for our seizing those seven men on shore would be no advantage to us if we let the boat escape, because they would then row away to the ship, and then the rest of them would be sure to weigh and set sail, and so our recovering the ship would be lost. We had no remedy but to wait and see what the issue of things might present. The seven men came on shore, and the three who remained in the boat put her off to a good distance from the shore, and came to an anchor to wait for them ; so that it was impossible for us to come at them in the boat. Those that came on shore kept close together, marching towards the top of the little hill under which my habitation lay ; and we could see them plainly, though they could not perceive us. We could have been very glad they would have come nearer to us, so that we might have fired at them, or that they would have gone farther off, that we might have come abroad. But when they were come to the brow of the hill, where they could see a great way into the valleys and woods which lay towards the north-east part, and where the island lay lowest, they shouted and hallooed till they were weary ; and not caring, it seems, to venture far from the shore, nor far from one another,

they sat down together under a tree, to consider of it. Had they thought fit to have gone to sleep there, as the other party of them had done, they had done the job for us ; but they were too full of apprehensions of danger.

We lay still a long time, very irresolute what course to take. At length I told them there would be nothing to be done, in my opinion, till night ; and then, if they did not return to the boat, perhaps we might find a way to get between them and the shore, and so might use some stratagem with them in the boat to get them on shore. We waited a great while, though very impatient for their removing ; and were very uneasy when, after long consultations, we saw them start all up, and march down toward the sea. It seems they had such dreadful apprehensions upon them of the danger of the place, that they resolved to give their companions over for lost, and so go on with their intended voyage. But I presently thought of a stratagem to fetch them back again. I ordered Friday and the captain's mate to go over the little creek westward, and as soon as they came to a little rising ground, at about half a mile distance, I bade them halloo as loud as they could, and wait till they found the seamen heard them ; that as soon as ever they heard the seamen answer them, they should return it again ; and then keeping out of sight, take a round, always answering when the other hallooed, to draw them as far into the island, and among the woods, as possible, and then wheel about again to me by such ways as I directed them.

They were just going into the boat when Friday and the mate hallooed ; and they presently answering, ran along the shore westward, when they were stopped by the creek, where they could not get over, and called for the boat to come up and set them over, as, indeed, I expected. When they had set themselves over, I observed that the boat being gone up a good way into the creek, and, as it were, in a harbour within the land, they took one of the three men



CALLED OUT TO HIM IN THE BOAT TO YIELD

out of her to go along with them, and left only two in the boat, having fastened her to the stump of a little tree on the shore. That was what I wished for ; and immediately leaving Friday and the captain's mate to their business, I took the rest with me, and crossing the creek out of their sight, we surprised the two men before they were aware ; one of them lying on shore, and the other being in the boat. The fellow on shore was between sleeping and waking, and going to start up. The captain, who was foremost, ran in upon him, and knocked him down, and then called out to him in the boat to yield, or he was a dead man. There needed very few arguments to persuade a single man to yield when he saw five men upon him, and his comrade knocked down.

In the meantime, Friday and the captain's mate so well managed their business with the rest, that they drew them,

by hallooing and answering, from one hill to another, and from one wood to another, till they not only heartily tired them, but left them where they were very sure they could not reach back to the boat before it was dark; and indeed they were heartily tired themselves also by the time they came back to us. It was several hours after Friday came back to me before they came back to their boat; and we could hear the foremost of them, long before they came quite up, calling to those behind to come along, and could also hear them complain how lame and tired they were.

'Tis impossible to express their confusion when they found the boat fast aground in the creek, the tide ebbed out, and their two men gone. We could hear them call to one another in a most lamentable manner, telling one another they were gotten into an enchanted island; that either there were inhabitants in it, and they should all be murdered, or else there were devils and spirits in it, and they should all be carried away. They hallooed again, and called their two comrades by their names a great many times; but no answer. After some time we could see them, by the little light there was, run about, wringing their hands like men in despair. My men would fain have me give them leave to fall upon them at once in the dark; but I was willing to take them at some advantage, so to spare them, and kill as few of them as I could; and especially I was unwilling to hazard the killing any of our own men. I resolved to wait, to see if they did not separate; and, therefore, to make sure of them, I drew my ambuscade nearer, and ordered Friday and the captain to creep upon their hands and feet, as close to the ground as they could, that they might not be discovered, and get as near them as they could possibly before they offered to fire. They had not been long in that posture but that the boatswain, who was the principal ringleader of the mutiny, and had now shown himself the most dejected and dispirited of all the rest, came walking towards them, with two more of their crew.

The captain was so eager, as having this principal rogue so much in his power, that he could hardly have patience to let him come so near as to be sure of him, for they only heard his tongue before ; but when they came nearer, the captain and Friday, starting up on their feet, let fly at them. The boatswain was killed upon the spot ; the next man was shot into the body, and fell just by him, though he did not die till an hour or two after ; and the third ran for it.

At the noise of the fire I immediately advanced with my whole army, which was now eight men, viz., myself, generalissimo ; Friday, my lieutenant-general ; the captain and his two men, and the three prisoners of war, whom we had trusted with arms. We came upon them in the dark, so that they could not see our number ; and I made the man we had left in the boat, who was now one of us, call to them by name, to try if I could bring them to a parley, and so might perhaps reduce them to terms. So he calls out as loud as he could to one of them, " Tom Smith ! Tom Smith ! " Tom Smith answered immediately, " Who's that ? Robinson ? " For it seems he knew his voice. The other answered, " Ay, ay ; for God's sake, Tom Smith, throw down your arms and yield, or you are all dead men this moment." " Who must we yield to ? Where are they ? " says Smith again. " Here they are," says he ; " here's our captain, and fifty men with him, have been hunting you this two hours ; the boatswain is killed, Will Frye is wounded, and I am a prisoner ; and if you do not yield, you are all lost." " Will they give us quarter then," says Tom Smith, " and we will yield ? " " I'll go and ask, if you promise to yield," says Robinson. So he asked the captain, and the captain then calls himself out, " You, Smith, you know my voice, if you lay down your arms immediately, and submit, you shall have your lives, all but Will Atkins." Upon this Will Atkins cried out, " For God's sake, captain, give me quarter ; what have I done ? They have been all as bad as I " ; which, by the

way, was not true neither ; for, it seems, this Will Atkins was the first man that laid hold of the captain when they first mutinied, and used him barbarously, in tying his hands, and giving him injurious language. However, the captain told him he must lay down his arms at discretion, and trust to the governor's mercy ; by which he meant me, for they all called me governor. In a word, they all laid down their arms, and begged their lives ; and I sent the man that had parleyed with them and two more, who bound them all ; and then my great army of fifty men, which, particularly with those three, were all but eight, came up and seized upon them all, and upon their boat ; only that I kept myself and one more out of sight for reasons of state.

Our next work was to repair the boat, and think of seizing the ship ; and as for the captain, now he had leisure to parley with them, he expostulated with them upon the villainy of their practices with him, and at length upon the farther wickedness of their design, and how certainly it must bring them to misery and distress in the end, and perhaps to the gallows. They all appeared very penitent, and begged hard for their lives. As for that, he told them they were none of his prisoners, but the commander of the island ; that they thought they had set him on shore in a barren, uninhabited island ; but it had pleased God so to direct them that the island was inhabited, and that the governor was an Englishman ; that he might hang them all there, if he pleased ; but as he had given them all quarter, he supposed he would send them to England, to be dealt with there as justice required, except Atkins, whom he was commanded by the governor to advise to prepare for death, for that he would be hanged in the morning. Though this was all a fiction of his own, yet it had its desired effect. Atkins fell upon his knees, to beg the captain to intercede with the governor for his life ; and all the rest begged of him, for God's sake, that they might not be sent to England.

It now occurred to me that the time of our deliverance

was come, and that it would be a most easy thing to bring these fellows in to be hearty in getting possession of the ship ; so I retired in the dark from them, that they might not see what kind of a governor they had, and called the captain to me. When I called, as at a good distance, one of the men was ordered to speak again, and say to the captain, " Captain, the commander calls for you." And presently the captain replied, " Tell his excellency I am just a-coming." This more perfectly amused them, and they all believed that the commander was just by with his fifty men. Upon the captain's coming to me, I told him my project for seizing the ship, which he liked wonderfully well, and resolved to put in execution the next morning. But in order to execute it with more art and success, I told him we must divide the prisoners, and that he should go and take Atkins and two more of the worst of them, and send them pinioned to the cave where the others lay. This was committed to Friday and the two men who came on shore with the captain. They conveyed them to the cave, as to a prison. It was, indeed, a dismal place, especially to men in their condition. The others I ordered to my bower ; and as it was fenced in, and they pinioned, the place was secure enough, considering they were on their behaviour.

To these in the morning I sent the captain, who was to enter into a parley with them ; to try them, and tell me whether he thought they might be trusted or no to go on board and surprise the ship. He talked to them of the injury done him, of the condition they were brought to ; and that though the governor had given them quarter for their lives as to the present action, yet if they were sent to England they would all be hanged in chains ; but that if they would join in so just an attempt as to recover the ship, he would have the governor's engagement for their pardon.

Any one may guess how readily such a proposal would be accepted by men in their condition. They fell down on their knees to the captain, and promised, with the deepest

imprecations, that they would be faithful to him to the last drop, and that they should owe their lives to him, and would go with him all over the world ; that they would own him for a father to them as long as they lived. "Well," says the captain, " I must go and tell the governor what you say, and see what I can do to bring him to consent to it." So he brought me an account of the temper he found them in, and that he verily believed they would be faithful.

Nevertheless, that we might be very secure, I told him he should go back again and choose out five of them, and tell them they might see that he did not want men, that he would take out those five to be his assistants, and that the governor would keep the other two and the three that were sent prisoners to the castle, my cave, as hostages for the fidelity of those five ; and that if they proved unfaithful in the execution, the five hostages should be hanged in chains alive upon the shore. This looked severe, and convinced them that the governor was in earnest. However, they had no way left them but to accept it ; and it was now the business of the prisoners, as much as of the captain, to persuade the other five to do their duty.

Our strength was now thus ordered for the expedition.

1. The captain, his mate, and passenger.
2. Then the two prisoners of the first gang, to whom, having their characters from the captain, I had given their liberty, and trusted them with arms.
3. The other two whom I had kept till now in my bower, pinioned, but upon the captain's motion had now released.
4. These five released at last ; so that they were twelve in all, besides five we kept prisoners in the cave for hostages.

I asked the captain if he was willing to venture with these hands on board the ship ; for as for me and my man Friday, I did not think it was proper for us to stir, having seven men left behind, and it was employment enough for us to keep them asunder and supply them with victuals. As to the five in the cave, I resolved to keep them fast ; but Friday went in twice a

day to them, to supply them with necessaries, and I made the other two carry provisions to a certain distance, where Friday was to take it. When I showed myself to the two hostages, it was with the captain, who told them I was the person the governor had ordered to look after them, and that it was the governor's pleasure they should not stir anywhere but by my direction; that if they did, they should be fetched into the castle, and be laid in irons; so that as we never suffered them to see me as governor, I now appeared as another person, and spoke of the governor, the garrison, the castle, and the like, upon all occasions.

The captain now had no difficulty before him but to furnish his two boats, stop the breach of one, and man them. He made his passenger captain of one, with four other men; and himself, and his mate, and five more went in the other. About midnight they came within call of the ship. He made Robinson hail them, and tell them they brought off the men and the boat, but that it was a long time before they had found them, and the like, holding them in a chat till they came to the ship's side; when the captain and the mate entering first, with their arms, immediately knocked down the second mate and carpenter with the butt-end of their muskets, being very faithfully seconded by their men. They secured all the rest that were upon the main and quarter decks, and began to fasten the hatches to keep them down who were below; when the other boat and their men entering at the fore-chains, secured the fore-castle of the ship, and the scuttle which went down into the cook-room, making three men they found there prisoners. When this was done, and all safe upon deck, the captain ordered the mate, with three men, to break into the round-house, where the new rebel captain lay, and having taken the alarm, was gotten up, and with two men and a boy had gotten firearms in their hands. Then the mate with a crow split open the door, but the new captain and his men fired boldly among them, and wounded the mate with a

musket-ball, which broke his arm, and wounded two more of the men, but killed nobody. The mate calling for help, rushed into the round-house wounded as he was, and with his pistol shot the new captain through the head, the bullet entering at his mouth and coming out again behind one of his ears, so that he never spoke a word ; upon which the rest yielded, and the ship was taken effectually.

As soon as the ship was thus secured, the captain ordered seven guns to be fired, which was the signal agreed upon with me to give me notice of his success, which you may be sure I was very glad to hear, having sat watching upon the shore for it till near two of the clock in the morning. Then I laid me down ; and it having been a day of great fatigue to me, I slept very sound, till I was something surprised with the noise of another gun ; and starting up, I heard a man call me : " Governor," " Governor ;" when climbing up to the top of the hill, there stood the captain, and pointing to the ship, he embraced me in his arms. " My dear friend and deliverer," says he, " there's your ship, for she is all yours, and so are we, and all that belong to her." I cast my eyes to the ship, and there she rode within little more than half a mile of the shore ; for they had weighed her anchor as soon as they were masters of her, and the weather being fair, had brought her to an anchor just against the mouth of the little creek, and the tide being up, the captain had brought the pinnace in and landed just at my door. I was at first ready to sink down with surprise ; for I saw my deliverance, indeed, visibly put into my hands, all things easy, and a large ship just ready to carry me away whither I pleased to go. At first, for some time, I was not able to answer him one word ; but as he had taken me in his arms, I held fast by him, or I should have fallen to the ground. He perceived the surprise, and immediately pulls a bottle out of his pocket, and gave me a dram of cordial, which he had brought on purpose for me. After I had drank it, I sat down upon the

ground ; and though it brought me to myself, yet it was a good while before I could speak a word to him. All this while the poor man was in as great an ecstasy as I, only not under any surprise, as I was. He said a thousand kind tender things to me, to compose me and bring me to myself ; but such was the flood of joy in my breast, that it put all my spirits into confusion. At last it broke out into tears, and in a little while after I recovered my speech. Then I took my turn, and embraced him as my deliverer, and we rejoiced together. I told him I looked upon him as a man sent from heaven to deliver me.

When we had talked a while, the captain told me he had brought me some little refreshment, such as the ship afforded, and such as the wretches that had been so long his masters had not plundered him of. Upon this he called aloud to the boat, and bid his men bring the things ashore that were for the governor ; and, indeed, it was a present as if I had been one, not that was to be carried away along with them, but as if I had been to dwell upon the island still, and they were to go without me. First, he had brought me a case of bottles full of excellent cordial, six large bottles of Madeira wine (the bottles held two quarts apiece), two pounds of excellent good tobacco, twelve pieces of the ship's beef, and six pieces of pork, with a bag of peas, and about a hundredweight of biscuit. Also a box of sugar, a box of flour, a bag of lemons, and two bottles of lime-juice, and abundance of other things ; but besides these, and what was a thousand times more useful to me, he brought me six clean new shirts, six very good neck-cloths, two pair of gloves, one pair of shoes, a hat, and one pair of stockings, and a very good suit of clothes of his own, which had been worn but very little ; in a word, he clothed me from head to foot. It was a very kind and agreeable present, as any one may imagine, to one in my circumstances ; but never was anything in the world so awkward and uneasy, as it was to me to wear such clothes.

After these ceremonies passed, we began to consult what was to be done with the prisoners ; for it was worth considering whether we might venture to take them away with us or no, especially two of them, whom we knew to be incorrigible and refractory to the last degree ; and the captain said he knew they were such rogues, that there was no obliging them ; and if he did carry them away, it must be in irons, as malefactors, to be delivered over to justice at the first English colony he could come at ; and I found that the captain himself was very anxious about it. Upon this I told him that, if he desired it, I durst undertake to bring the two men he spoke of to make it their own request that he should leave them upon the island. “ I should be very glad of that,” says the captain, “ with all my heart.” “ Well,” says I, “ I will send for them and talk with them for you.” So I caused Friday and the two hostages to go to the cave and bring up the five men, pinioned as they were, to the bower, and keep them there till I came. After some time I came thither, dressed in my new habit ; and now I was called governor again. Being all met, and the captain with me, I caused the men to be brought before me, and I told them I had had a full account of their villainous behaviour to the captain, and how they had run away with the ship, and were preparing to commit farther robberies, but that Providence had ensnared them in their own ways, and that they were fallen into the pit which they had digged for others. I let them know that by my direction the ship had been seized, that she lay now in the road, and they might see, by and by, that their new captain had received the reward of his villainy, for that they might see him hanging at the yard-arm ; that as to them, I wanted to know what they had to say why I should not execute them as pirates, taken in the fact, as by my commission they could not doubt I had authority to do.

I had some inclination to give them their lives, if they thought they could shift on shore. They seemed very

thankful for it, said they would much rather venture to stay there than to be carried to England to be hanged ; so I left it on that issue. But the captain seemed to make some difficulty of it, as if he durst not leave them there. Upon this I seemed a little angry with the captain, and told him that they were my prisoners, not his ; and that seeing I had offered them so much favour, I would be as good as my word ; and that if he did not think fit to consent to it I would set them at liberty as I found them ; and if he did not like it, he might take them again if he could catch them. Upon this they appeared very thankful, and accordingly set them at liberty, and bade them retire into the woods to the place whence they came, and I would leave them some firearms, some ammunition, and some directions how they should live very well, if they thought fit.

Upon this I told the captain that I would stay that night to prepare my things, and desired him to go on board in the meantime, and keep all right in the ship, and send the boat on shore the next day for me ; ordering him, in the meantime, to cause the new captain, who was killed, to be hanged at the yard-arm, that these men might see him. When the captain was gone, I sent for the men again, and entered seriously into discourse with them. I told them I thought they had made a right choice ; that if the captain carried them away, they would certainly be hanged. I showed them the new captain hanging at the yard-arm of the ship, and told them they had nothing less to expect. When they had all declared their willingness to stay, I told them the story of my living there, and put them into the way of making it easy to them. I gave them the whole history of the place, and of my coming to it, showed them my fortifications, the way I made my bread, planted my corn, cured my grapes ; and in a word, all that was necessary to make them easy. I told them the story also of the sixteen Spaniards that were to be expected, for whom I left a letter, and made them promise to treat them in

common with themselves. I left them my firearms and three swords, and gave them a description of the way I managed the goats, and directions to milk and fatten them, and to make both butter and cheese. In a word, I gave them every part of my own story, and I told them I would prevail with the captain to leave them two barrels of gunpowder more, and some garden seeds, which I told them I would have been very glad of.

Having done all this, I left them the next day, and went on board the ship. The next morning early two of the five men came swimming to the ship's side, and making a most lamentable complaint of the other three, begged to be taken into the ship for God's sake, for they should be murdered, and begged the captain to take them on board, though he hanged them immediately. Upon this the captain pretended to have no power without me; but after some difficulty, and after their solemn promises of amendment, they were taken on board, and were soundly whipped and pickled, after which they proved honest and quiet fellows.

When I and Friday took leave of this island, I carried on board, for relics, the great goatskin cap I had made, my umbrella, and my parrot; also I forgot not to take the money I formerly mentioned, which had lain by me so long useless that it was grown rusty or tarnished, and could hardly pass for silver till it had been rubbed and handled; as also the money I found in the wreck of the Spanish ship.

And thus I left the island, the 19th of December, as I found by the ship's account, in the year 1686, after I had been upon it eight and twenty years, two months, and nineteen days, being delivered from this second captivity the same day of the month that I first made my escape from among the Moors of Sallee. In this vessel, after a long voyage, I arrived in England, the 11th of June, in the year 1687, having been thirty and five years absent.

